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# United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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## Report No. 103.

[Compiled in the Office of Information, G. W. Wharton, Chief.]

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# SOCIAL AND LABOR NEEDS OF FARM WOMEN.

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EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM FARM WOMEN IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY "HOW THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CAN BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF FARM HOUSEWIVES," WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE PROVISION OF INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS IN HOME ECONOMICS UNDER THE ACT OF MAY 8, 1914, PROVIDING FOR COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK, ETC.



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## INTRODUCTION.

The Secretary of Agriculture, on October 1, 1913, addressed a letter to the housewives of 55,000 crop correspondents, asking them to suggest ways in which the United States Department of Agriculture could render more direct service to the farm women of the United States. This inquiry was prompted by the following extract from a letter addressed to the Secretary by Mr. Clarence Poe, Raleigh, N. C., under date of July 9, 1913:

Have some bulletins for the farmer's wife as well as for the farmer himself. The farm woman has been the most neglected factor in the rural problem, and she has been especially neglected by the National Department of Agriculture. Of course, a few such bulletins are printed, but not enough.

Although the department had issued many bulletins and publications designed to give farm women practical aid in household operations, and to assist them in poultry raising, butter making, gardening, and other farm activities commonly discharged by women. Mr. Poe's suggestion seemed to merit careful investigation.<sup>1</sup>

Moreover, at the time that Mr. Poe wrote, the Smith-Lever Act, providing for cooperative agricultural extension work, was under discussion by the Congress with prospects of an early passage. This act as drafted, and since passed, provided for "the giving of instruction and practical demonstrations in agriculture and home economics." This, it was seen, would call on this department to cooperate with the States in furnishing a new type of instruction specifically designed to aid farm women in their important tasks of home-making and domestic manufacturing. For this reason it seemed especially important to seek information as to the things in which the rural women most needed cooperative assistance.<sup>2</sup>

This report is offered, therefore, with the belief that it contains suggestions well worthy of governmental consideration and also in the hope that it may prove suggestive and helpful to the State agencies that will have the carrying out of the Smith-Lever Act. That act, starting this year with a grant of \$10,000 of Federal moneys to each State, by increasing annual appropriations makes available in 1922 and thereafter a sum of \$4,580,000 of Federal funds for use in the extension fields. The States must duplicate with their funds all

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendices A, C, D, E, and F for lists of publications of interest to women.

<sup>2</sup> Yearbook, Department of Agriculture, 1913, pp. 143-162, "What the Department of Agriculture is doing for housekeepers."

but \$480,000 of each annual Federal appropriation, so that after 1921, if the States elect to receive their full quota, the sum of \$8,680,000 will be spent each year in practical on-the-farm education. In the first nine fiscal years a total of \$41,920,000 should be directed to this purpose.<sup>1</sup>

The sum from this total to be expended for helping the rural woman necessarily will be large, and, if it is to be most profitably expended, must supply those elements which are now lacking in our present systems of instruction. The following report at least shows many things which in the mind of the country woman herself are now left undone.

It was felt that if the farm women had been neglected, they themselves were best qualified to determine wherein this neglect lay and to make suggestions as to ways and means whereby the department could render to them, in fuller measure, the direct help to which the importance of their work in agricultural production entitles them.

The most promising limited list of farm women seemed to be the housewives of the department's 55,000 volunteer crop correspondents. These crop correspondents commonly are among the most progressive farmers in their communities, and it was reasonable to suppose that the women of their families would be fully qualified to discuss their own needs and the fields in which the department could serve other farm women in their communities.

The Secretary, therefore, determined to send to these women a general letter which would not formulate any definite questions, but rather would encourage them to discuss freely and in their own way any matters in which they believed the department might improve its service to rural women or undertake new activities in their behalf. A general letter of this character, it was believed, would secure more valuable replies than would a questionnaire blank, which would tend to bring "yes" and "no" answers rather than a free discussion of the general subject. It was realized that before any effective series of questions could be framed it would be necessary first to get the views and opinions of many farm women as to what questions should be asked.

Sending the letter was delayed until October 1 in order to have it arrive after the pressure of harvest work, and the recipients were given until November 15 to reply, in order that they might have time to consider the matter at their leisure and to consult with individual women neighbors and local women's organizations. This many of those addressed did, with the result that their letters in many cases represent the community rather than the individual viewpoint.

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix B for statement as to how women may obtain help under this act.



The following is the text of the Secretary's letter:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
Washington, D. C., October 1, 1913.

TO HOUSEWIVES IN THE HOMES OF THE OFFICIAL CROP CORRESPONDENTS.

LADIES: The Department of Agriculture is in receipt of a letter in which the writer said:

"The farm woman has been the most neglected factor in the rural problem, and she has been especially neglected by the National Department of Agriculture."

This letter was written not by a woman, but by a broad-minded man so thoroughly in touch with the agricultural and domestic needs of the country that his opinions have great weight.

The Department of Agriculture certainly wishes to render directly to the women of the United States the full aid and service which their important place in agricultural production warrants.

Because we believe that these women themselves are best fitted to tell the department how it can improve its service for them, I respectfully request that you give careful thought to this matter. Then please communicate your ideas to me in the inclosed franked envelope.

Your answers may state your own personal views, or, even better, you may first discuss the question with your women neighbors or in your church societies or women's organizations and submit an answer representing the combined opinions of the women of your entire community. You are, of course, at liberty to criticise freely, but I would especially urge that you try to make your suggestions constructive ones that we can at once put into effect. All of your suggestions will be carefully read and considered by Government specialists. Many of them will be carried out at once; others as soon as the information sought can be gathered and the necessary machinery for its distribution made ready. Such suggestions as call for revision of existing laws or additional legislation will be referred to the proper committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Answers to this inquiry should reach me not later than November 15, 1913. All answers should be written on only one side of the paper and should be as concise as it is possible to make them.

In order to serve the women of the country, the department from time to time will insert in the weekly issue of the News Letter to Official Crop Correspondents special paragraphs or special supplement pages of direct interest to women.

Respectfully,

D. F. HOUSTON,  
*Secretary.*

The replies began to arrive from the Eastern States during the second week in October, though the bulk of the answers reached Washington after November 1. Straggling replies came in up to Christmas, and in these were included a number of letters from farm women and other women who formerly lived on the farm, but are residing in cities, who had not been directly addressed but who had learned of the inquiry from the public prints. In all, 2,241 replies were received, and of these 216 were either acknowledgments, state-

ments that the writer could make no suggestions, or irrelevant replies that had no bearing on the general subject. The number of women directly represented, however, is much larger than the tally of the letters would indicate, as many writers transmitted opinions of their neighbors or of women's clubs, granges, or church organizations. The letters received were in all forms—carefully typewritten statements, notes scribbled on the back or margin of the Secretary's letter, or painstakingly written on scraps of wrapping paper. Not a few wrote on the margin of the Secretary's letter that no blank for answer had been inclosed, and this, in connection with the makeshift note paper of others, seems to indicate that on some farms, at least, the ordinary conveniences for correspondence are regarded as luxuries.

In a number of cases the letters were signed by men who wrote either on their own initiative or recorded their wives' views. The pleasant feature of the replies from men was that the vast majority of them seemed to recognize that the women on the farms do not always receive their full due and that improvements are needed to free them from unnecessary drudgery and to make their lives happier, less lonely, and more endurable. Letters from men expressing selfish or narrow views of the rural woman's place, or resenting the department's endeavor to serve them, were entirely exceptional. Wherever the writer is a man that fact is indicated in connection with any excerpts from the letters which appear on subsequent pages. Extracts not so marked are from letters written by women.

All letters containing definite suggestions, criticisms, or statements of conditions calling for improvement were carefully read. The matters discussed were then grouped under 100 heads, and each sentence or paragraph in each letter bearing on a special head was copied and collated under that heading. In this way a single sentence containing an idea, even though buried in a long and otherwise irrelevant letter, was noted and given its full weight in compiling and classifying suggestions.

Because of the interesting human note found in many of the letters, the editors determined to let the writers tell their own story by publishing verbatim extracts from many of the letters, rather than attempting to make a statistical summary of their contents.

Inasmuch as the geographical section and the State from which the suggestions come have an important bearing on the inquiry, the collators arbitrarily divided the United States into fairly equal quarters, and arranged the replies by States in the northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest fourths of the United States.

Many of the writers asked that their letters be treated confidentially, and for this reason all are published anonymously, with

the omission in certain cases of specific allusions which would make possible the identification of the writer.

The only other editing that has been done has been to eliminate extracts from letters where several writers from the same State made the same recommendations in nearly identical language, without advancing additional reasons or new ideas, and to exclude suggestions in matters entirely beyond the province of this department.

The extracts from these letters published hereafter are to be taken merely as expressing the views of the various writers and their neighbors. Their publication in no way implies that the Department of Agriculture indorses their views or suggestions, or is responsible for their statements of local conditions. Many of the letters clearly are discussions or descriptions of conditions peculiar to special farms or neighborhoods, rather than applicable throughout the State or district.

In the study of the replies it quickly became apparent that many women were wholly unaware of publications of the department or the activities of its different bureaus dealing with the very points recommended for consideration. For this reason lists of the department's publications of interest to women, and of other bulletins dealing with subjects discussed by the writers, have been published as appendices. For similar reasons, publications of other Federal departments having a bearing on the problems discussed by the women have been indicated in footnotes or in lists in the appendices.<sup>1</sup> These lists do not include many publications of interest to women and dealing with their work issued by the different State agricultural colleges, many of which stand ready to supply women of their own States with valuable publications and to answer their questions bearing on rural life and home industry.

In addition the manuscript of the report was submitted to the heads of all bureaus in this department, with the request that they indicate in footnotes or in the appendices available publications meeting the requests for information or supply concise statements of projects or work under way in the fields in which the various writers seek assistance. The different bureaus also have been requested to consider carefully the suggestions of the women, and, where feasible, to de-

<sup>1</sup> The United States Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C., will supply publications and information to rural women interested in improving the schools of their communities. The Home Education Division of this bureau provides special plans and outlines for the organization and work of women's study clubs and for parents' and children's reading circles. The Children's Bureau issues publications and will give advice on the care and rearing of children. The Office of Indian Affairs has published a number of bulletins on household activities. The Public Health Service has made available a number of publications dealing with health, preventive medicine, and rural sanitation. The Reclamation Service maintains an office designed to cooperate with women on the reclamation projects. The National Red Cross will give information as to rural nursing and allied subjects. (See Appendices A, C, E, and F.)



velop projects for meeting such of these requests as fall within the province of the department and which it would seem advantageous for the department to investigate or meet.

Advance copies of the report similarly will be referred to the chairmen of the various legislative committees of the Congress for such action as they deem the suggestions which require legislation merit.

#### SCOPE OF THE REPORTS.

The present report deals only with letters which discuss the social and labor needs of farm women. Under these headings are included references to better roads, telephones, and mail service as important factors in the social life of the country, and to the long hours and methods of women's work, which, on many farms, increase isolation and leave little leisure or energy for recreation or intellectual activities. Later reports will deal with (1) the domestic needs of farm women, (2) the educational needs of farm women, and (3) the economic needs of farm women, as indicated by the writers of the different sections.



## SOCIAL RELATIONS.

### DISSATISFACTION AND CONTENTMENT ON FARMS.

The loneliness, isolation, and lack of social and educational opportunity on the farm form the text of letters from all parts of the United States. On the other hand, many women writing from much the same States express complete contentment with farm life and assert that they would be unwilling to change lots with city women.

Apparently, the complaint about the loneliness of farm life is more or less closely connected with other statements regarding overwork and long hours of farm women, which make afternoon or other visiting almost impossible, and therefore keep the women at home. Several point to the fact that the farmer, in carrying his produce to market, comes into touch with the outside world, and that even this opportunity for change of scene, seeing new faces, and talking with other people is not afforded to the women.

A study of the counties whence the letters complaining of isolation originate seems to establish the fact that the condition is peculiar to individual farms rather than attributable to any general state of farming.

Some of the letters complaining of loneliness come from counties in the older farming sections that are well populated and well provided with roads or interfarm communication. On the other hand, some of the writers who express great contentment with farm life are located in regions where large farms are the rule, and presumably live farther from neighbors than is the case in the older farming sections.

The following are extracts from typical letters from both classes of writers:

#### Loneliness and Isolation.

##### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

###### NEW YORK.

"Our farm woman is in the rut of stay-at-home, and thus much of her work is a monotonous round. She owes it to herself and those about her to take some time off. Taking an interest in things about will prove an inspiration, and she will feel a new interest in her work when she takes it up again."

"The hardest phase of country life for the women in my neighborhood is the monotony, with no means or opportunity for any social life whatever. 'We are so isolated we can not even go to church on Sunday,' they all say to me. The country men do not care for the entertainments and amusements that the towns

and cities offer. They meet among themselves at work more than the women can, and life is dreary indeed with never an afternoon or an evening spent away from home."

## PENNSYLVANIA.

"I know nothing as far as conversing with neighbors. We only have one neighbor, and she is like myself—has to go out in the fields, plant, hoe, and dig. We have no time for anything, only milk and churn. We live, you might say, between four mountains. All we can see is hills; and for society, we know nothing about what it is like; and for church, we don't get there, either; and for knowing what other farms look like, we don't know. For when we go to town we see no farms, and our husbands don't believe in taking their wives out. Some of the Pennsylvania women have their farms joining ours, but we don't see and can not see them without going 2 or 3 miles. We are getting old and can't walk, so we don't see them or their farms. In fact, we are no farmers that a person would call a farmer. All we know is what others tell us, and I don't believe in that way. I would like to go and see for myself, but my husband is not of that mind."

## OHIO.

"In all these years I have never had a vacation, never belonged to a club or any organization, and never went to church or to an entertainment; had no time to visit a neighbor—just worked early and late, with a snatch for reading between. Do you wonder we get lonely and discouraged and are ignorant and uncultured, for our city cousins to make fun over, and how we long to get away from the farm for good."

On behalf of a mothers' club: "If you knew the isolation we endure for just about six months of the year, when our children leave for school between 6 and 7 o'clock mornings and return home when the lamps are lighted in the evening. Some of the tiniest kiddies go to sleep in the school wagons as they plod through roads almost impassable. Ten hours a day for little children attending school makes life a strenuous affair."

"Good roads would make it unnecessary for us to hibernate during part of the winter and early spring."

*A man:* "Every farm improvement that will check the monotony of life on the farm and make it more healthful and more to be endured changes the kennel of farm life to a home not with all the comforts but the necessities of life, and every mother will be found ready to cheerfully greet you at the kitchen door."

"I know a lady who was raised on a farm, married, and went to town to live. One very cold winter, knowing both she and her babies had gone without sufficient food and clothing, I said to her, 'Don't you think you would stand a better chance of getting a living in the country?' 'I might,' she said, 'but I should rather go hungry half the time than go back to the farm,' and she surely meant it, for I know for a fact that she did just about that. Her case is only one of thousands."

## MICHIGAN.

"The rural community is robbed of its most helpful influences by the constant exodus from the country of its brightest boys and girls. I can not conscientiously encourage a certain charming young college girl I know who expects to marry a very bright agricultural student and take up farm life."

"The stern realities of life are ever with the farmer and his wife. Whatever burden one bears affects the other. Both hope on for better times, but the weaker, with her impulsive nature, often wearies of her narrow and slow progress of getting things she absolutely needs for her comfort, and to help her with the burden of work."

## WISCONSIN.

"The woman has no time to give to the little feminine accomplishments enjoyed by women and no opportunity to use the sitting room and its easy chairs."

"If automobiles could be made and sold on as small a margin of profit as buggies and farm machinery a great many farmers would buy them. In this way they would be able to go to town oftener to lectures and entertainments." She states that the farmers now keep only heavy draft horses and the farm machinery is made larger and heavier now than in former years. Evidently she means that driving horses are not available for outings.

## MINNESOTA.

"We are on a splendid 320-acre farm with unlimited opportunities, yet it is almost intolerable here on account of being so shut off from the outside world."

"The work of the woman is on the farm and the performance of that work does not require that she leave the farm home. She is, therefore, cut off from any diversion. Her companion, the farmer, in the performance of his work in marketing the products of the farm is less subjected to the monotonous drudgery than is the woman. In general, I believe this in the main accounts for the greater hardships thrust upon the woman than upon the man. In general, the farmer and his wife feel that they must continually apply themselves to the work and can find no time for anything in the way of entertainment. The rural population has become so accustomed to the grind that it never thinks of better things. Unless the rural population is educated to a knowledge of a life which is less a drudgery, there can be no change."

## IOWA.

"Women have an innate longing for appreciation and a feeling that they are partners in fact with their husbands and not looked upon as subordinates. Their craving for the bright and beautiful and variety must be gratified, else they become body, soul, and heart weary. She must have much of the brighter side of life if she is to remain content or wants to see her daughters follow in her footsteps."

"In my opinion, the worst feature of farm work is too much work and too little pleasure. No wonder young folks leave the farm. The main cause of dissatisfaction of housewives is their isolation."

## MISSOURI.

A woman in Missouri consulted a number of women who had lived on farms and gone to towns to live. She writes: "Some came to town to give their children better school advantages. Some because of the isolation and no church facilities. Others said the men needed to be educated up, as so many men think women's work does not amount to much and consequently has no commercial valuation."



"Our girls and boys soon see that their city cousins have less of hard labor at long hours and comparatively much higher wages, with greater privileges and conveniences, and it is this contrast that makes the country girl and boy drift cityward, to the detriment of the farm."

"We are situated 18 miles from any railroad, town, or library, in the rough, hilly roads of the Ozarks. One's heart hungers with the need of good helpful reading—books and magazines near, and juvenile reading—of animal life and nature study, where we could secure it as easily as the dime novel and detective story—and good, clean, wholesome music."

#### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### VIRGINIA.

"Isolation, stagnation, ignorance, loss of ambition, the incessant grind of labor, and the lack of time for improvement by reading, by social intercourse, or by recreation of some sort are all working against the farm woman's happiness and will ultimately spell disaster to our Nation. The people make a country, never does the country make the people, and a woman's influence and training will show upon all peoples. Therefore, take care of her, and do not burden her with drudgery, which will dwarf her mind and destroy her ambition."

"We need help to change the outlook of farmers to show them how to do the monotonous tasks in a spirit that keeps them from being drudgery."

##### NORTH CAROLINA.

"The problem that is confronting a lot of the farm women in the isolated farm districts is the social problem. No diversion in entertainment, nowhere to go, nothing to look forward to. Just an endless round of toil."

##### GEORGIA.

"It is isolation, the lack of human sympathy, human cooperation, which make country life undesirable."

"The farmer's wife from the day she becomes a bride until the day of her death is the prop of the farm, and she is always on the alert to the interests of her husband. I am 60 years old and have spent my entire life on the farm, and surely ought to know a few things that would make life not so monotonous."

##### ALABAMA.

A woman in Alabama writes that she entertained a farm woman who was going back to visit her old home, the first vacation she had had in 20 years. Her husband was prosperous and had all kinds of modern farming implements, as far as his land would permit, and would have been terribly shocked if anyone had insinuated that he was unkind to his wife, and "the wife didn't know that she hadn't had a square deal."

##### ARKANSAS.

"The worst trouble we have is isolation. Absence of social life. We would rather have free telephones and moving pictures than free seed."

## NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## NEBRASKA.

"Too long days is one trouble on the farm—5.30 a. m. to 9 p. m., with no time for recreation or reading; monotony in the work."

"The country women are a happy, intelligent, and independent body, as a class. The greatest need for their good to-day is appreciation of their work and the means of keeping up an active interest in it. It is so generally monotonous. They are busy and their work demands their constant presence, but an occasional half hour could be taken with profit if something accessible along their line of work could be put within their reach."

## KANSAS.

"Most of the ladies of our aid society seem to think their cases could not be reached by any law, and they gave the impression that they were content to sink into a grumbling acceptance of existing conditions."

"Most of the new houses are modern and comfortable and compare favorably with those in towns and cities. The only drawback is the isolation, which slowly is being remedied by the rural free delivery, telephone, and automobile."

## COLORADO.

"As a farmer's daughter and housekeeper, school-teacher, county superintendent of schools, and ranchman's wife. I have been almost constantly in touch with the women of rural communities, and I do not hesitate to say that these women are becoming more and more dissatisfied with the lives they live. They are contrasting the amount of labor they perform, the clothes they wear, and their social pleasures with those of their sisters in towns and cities whose husbands are in equal or poorer circumstances, and drawing their own conclusions. This general dissatisfaction trends sooner or later into a move from the country, when it would be a benefit to the whole country if the experienced farmers, who had grown up in the work, remained on the farm. As general desertion of the farms by the owners is a menace to the well-being of the Nation, it is time the Government sought the main cause and provided a remedy. What I consider the main cause of unrest is the almost universal custom of boarding the hired men in the family."

"If something could be started to make for a variety in the home life of farm women—not to estrange, but bring nearer the importance and love for home duties. Home studies and things along this line no doubt would bear good fruit. With our telephones and rural mail routes, the farmers' wives are not so set off as formerly."

## WASHINGTON.

"If the farm woman were shown how she could have more diversion and some of the attractive features of the city, she might be more contented."

"I do not get off the ranch one time in a month, as it is all work and no place to go. I am not complaining of my lot. I am here with my family of boys and a hard-working husband, all of whom I dearly love. But it is uphill work with no pleasure outside of our family, and no comfort."

## OREGON.

"This eastern Oregon country with its large grain farms keeps our women pretty well isolated. Any help in each individual home would not relieve this."

## SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## OKLAHOMA.

*A man:* "The isolated life led by a good many of our farm women, and men too, for that matter, has a tendency to retard development toward better living."

## TEXAS.

"Many farm women don't get off their own premises more than a dozen times a year. The fathers get so accustomed to the mothers' staying at home, they seem to forget that they might enjoy a little rest and recreation and really feel that she must stay at home 'to keep the ranch going,' as I have heard them express it. And the mother gets so accustomed to it she, too, seems to forget she is human. The more intelligent and broader-minded men become, the more they appreciate woman and understand that she is equal in all things. But the men in the country realize this far less than the men in town. So there is another disadvantage she suffers."

(Unsigned typewritten statement on letterhead of a Texas attorney): "The greatest benefit that any government could bestow upon the women of the rural communities would be to enable them to have a diversity of interest and put them in touch with the world of thought, progress, and amusement. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy—and it is even more disastrous to Jill."

"I have never been to a lecture, nor play, nor show since marriage—have been trying to save to buy a home. It has been a very monotonous road to travel. The women here in this country, where there is no help to be had, don't average a half dozen visits a year. Don't have time. I am making soap and catchup to-day."

Contentment—Advantages of Country Life.<sup>1</sup>

## NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## NEW YORK.

"It is up to the farm woman to do something for herself by keeping in touch with the farm business in all its branches. This, woman can do, no matter what line is followed on the farm. Coming from the city and school-room I was, perhaps, more interested in the work than farm girls; however, I followed the work from day to day, year to year, and at all times knew the details. We joined the grange and found that the lecture work included the old 'pieces to speak,' a little music, and mostly initiation formalities and suppers—nothing to make the woman part of the farm."

"The more progressive are doing their own peddling and running the hen-and-egg business independently and supporting themselves nicely. This tends to broaden views, as the seller comes in contact with business people. I do

<sup>1</sup> See Appendices A and C, especially under the following heads: Agricultural Clubs; Farm Buildings; Farm Conveniences; Farmers' Institutes; Floriculture.



not believe the general farm woman nowadays lives as narrow a life as the 'bridge-whist fiend.'"

"We have all the privileges socially in our vicinity that anyone could wish—good churches, schools, modern clubs, granges, and all such things. I think that the farmer and his wife are more in partnership than any other class of people. Whatever the Department of Agriculture does to help the farmer is of benefit to his wife."

## DELAWARE.

*A man:* "Farm life is not so monotonous and drudging as it was 25 years ago. School advantages, the reading of good literature daily brought to the door, parcel post, telephones in almost every home, the automobile, rapid means of travel and transportation, etc., all these help to make rural life desirable."

"The duties of women have greatly changed within the past 10 years—the labor having been transferred to men. This is especially true of dairying since milk is being shipped to the larger cities. Women do little or no milking and even where butter is made men do most of the work; and in the matter of making clothing for both men and women this, in recent years, is nearly all made in the cities and towns. This also applies to bedding of all kinds. The wife of a tenant farmer when asked why she had no sewing machine replied that she could buy ready-made clothing and bedding cheaper than she could buy the raw material."

## OHIO.

"Twenty-five years ago the farming was most all done by hand and the wife had to cook for a bunch of men, three times a day, with no conveniences of any kind. To-day we have all kinds of farm implements with only one or two hired men for about three weeks to work for and no washing. The farmer's wife has the parcel post every day. She sends the milk to the creamery to avoid churning."

## ILLINOIS.

*A man from Illinois* wrote about the satisfactory conditions of the tenant farmers: "There are plenty of factories here, but the family does not think its condition would be improved by leaving the farm for factory service."

## MICHIGAN.

"It is believed that we occupy a very narrow sphere bounded by the four walls of home, but it is our share of the common lot; there is something doing every minute of the time pertaining to our occupation. (I can recall a similar experience in an office.) The daily mail, the telephone, the bookcase, the phonograph bring to us a world of business and a world of entertainment."

Report of a woman's organization in Michigan: "Women in the country do not work any harder than women in town do. It is a woman's own fault now if she does not have a good time in the country. I think women in the country have a better time than women in the city."

## WISCONSIN.

"The comfort and consequent happiness and contentment among farmers and their wives depend largely upon their own efforts. There are very many

intelligent, prosperous farmers whose families are surrounded by many of the comforts of life and whose sons and daughters are college educated, and there are many others who are always poor and worthless; they don't seem to have either ambition or good common sense, but I fail to see how the Department of Agriculture can supply them with brains, and that is what they most need. Taking the country over, I believe the farmers' wives more to be envied than pitied by those broad-minded people outside who in reality know very little of the real life of the rural woman. Her interests are closely centered in her home; she is, as a rule, kindhearted and ready to help a neighbor in times of need, but I don't think she needs or desires help from the Government, or the sympathy of our city sisters, who are sorry for us because we have to do our own work with our own hands."

"The women of this part as a whole are well satisfied with their lot. Our social center is the church, and we try to apply the golden rule in our daily affairs of life. The most of us have a bunch of robust, happy children, which keep the rough corners smoothed down. We keep abreast with the times. Everybody with the shoulder to the wheel; a great supply of literature on hand; piano and music in the house. We are satisfied."

#### MINNESOTA.

"I do not believe that the farm woman is the most neglected person on the farm to-day. She is the husband's partner in all his transactions and he looks to her as such, consulting with her in all important matters. She shares equal with him in all joys and sorrows."

#### IOWA.

*A man:* "This is my own observation: The farmers' wives on farms in Iowa have rural delivery, phones to call up any neighbor, and electric machinery to run the washer, pump, and cream separator. And now with the auto to take them where they please, with the good moral atmosphere in which to raise a family, the long winter evenings with the family at home, with good books and papers, the country beats the city, with all its nervous strain, all to pieces."

*A man:* "Wife says she does not know of one thing that the department can do to make work lighter for women who are ambitious and want to help their husbands earn a competence. Conditions are so much better here than they were in England that all women in this country seem to be satisfied."

#### MISSOURI.

"I lived all my life in the city until the last six years. I am so well pleased with the country and think the women in the country are so much better off than the poor women in the city—of course there could be many conveniences, but the majority of the city women do not have them either. It seems to me that it is just according to the man we live with. We have good times here in the country—almost every woman has her own horse and buggy. We are free compared to the city woman."

*A man:* "Without a word of comment I submitted your circular to the good woman who presides over my household, and I inclose her response, which expresses my sentiments exactly. She differs widely from your broad-minded correspondent. She is a 'home body' and would feel bored at a meeting of women assembled to air their grievances over the 'neglect' of the Department



of Agriculture. With her own hands she has compiled fruits, jellies, preserves, and 'butters' enough to last our family a year. She makes the best of biscuits and can broil a slice of ham with 'red gravy' in a most captivating way. She has earned the applause of a society which meets around her table and is very happy. She insists that she does not need to be coddled or 'mollycoddled.'"

"When we compare our up-to-date cooking range, oil cook stove, and fireless cooker with the open fireplace and cooking utensils that mother used 60 years ago, and the sewing machines, ready-made clothing, and cheap denims, etc., with the old spinning wheels, hand looms, and hand sewing and hand knitting of that day, we must confess that the household affairs have kept pace with the mowing machines, harvesters, threshers, plows, etc., of the farm."

#### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### VIRGINIA.

"About all that I have to say is that I am satisfied and content with my lot as housewife. My husband has given me all the help and conveniences that he is able to do with his financial means. I am 67 years old and have been married 50 years and do my own housework, with some aid from my husband—children married and to themselves."

##### WEST VIRGINIA.

"While the work is hard it has many compensations. Such love for home flat dwellers could never feel when they move every year. Intelligent farming should rank with other professions in dignity and respect, and surely the 'farm women' rank above the parasites of society who live in idleness and selfishness and worse."

##### KENTUCKY.

*A man:* "The farm woman in this section is getting along all O. K. as far as I can learn. We have some in the remote districts that work in the tobacco patch, etc., but I think they work of their own accord. So to take the thing all along I think the women in this section have their own way and do as they want to generally."

"Women don't have more than one-fourth as much drudgery and hard work as the women of 40 or 50 years ago. The spinning wheel, the cards, the knitting needles, and almost all kinds of sewing belong to the past. No more sitting up of a night until 10 o'clock to card and spin and knit and patch."

##### MISSISSIPPI.

"I live on a plantation 9 miles from town; have a home far above the average either in town or country. I am shut off from social life in town because I am a country woman, and in spite of the fact that my husband is a county official and owns more property than most of the town neighbors. I have a few books, magazines, and trips enough to afford variety and make life pleasant—yet we are not satisfied. Personally we prefer country life. We enjoy the sunrise and star rise, the beauty of the forest and fields of growing grain, our grove of giant oaks, and singing birds—farm animals, all of which are pets—yet every week we ask each other if we are not wasting our lives and if there isn't something better than farm drudgery?"

## LOUISIANA.

"The greatest trouble with the farmers' wives is a constant play upon their credulity by so many writers tending to convince them that they are neglected, ill-treated and physically weak. This gives them a demagogic idea that their husbands are brutish and their surroundings not such as their means should warrant and consequently results in unnecessary discontent and domestic infelicity. I would suggest that if farmers were chided less with their fabulous and misused wealth, and afforded better opportunities for distributing and marketing their wealth of produce, their wives would be happier, more comfortable, and less enslaved."

## NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## NORTH DAKOTA.

"Many neighbors have 'sold out' and quit farming because they had to. We will have to sell this fall, because we are so deep in debt—it will nearly kill me if we have to leave the farm. I do so want to keep my husband and children there. I don't see how I can part with the horses. I hate the cities and am afraid of them, so I hope the lawmakers will believe that ours is a real need. I am 25 years old and our children are aged 6, 4, and 2½ years. I don't belong to the 'I won't works,' but would like a little pay."

"In spite of all our disadvantages, the farm is the best place to live and raise a family of healthy, happy boys and girls."

## NEBRASKA.

"I really do not see what the Government could do to better my condition. The Government owes me protection of life and property, but my happiness I must work out myself. Lawmaking to affect our home and family affairs is not necessary; we make our own laws in these matters. I have a pleasant home in which I reign supreme."

## KANSAS.

"Having received your communication in regard to what I think about agriculture—I think it is the grandest, most independent life one can live. Women in general are not much for outdoor work. But I have made garden and raised flowers for over 30 years."

*A man:* "My wife said that most of the farmers' wives were responsible for their own happy or unhappy condition, and I believe in the main that is a fact—my wife was city raised and the farm did not appeal to her at first. I think the farmer's life is fine and I don't think my family and I could be contented any place else. Of course we go to the city quite frequently and always try to see all the best amusements while there."

*A man:* "There is no class of women in the State of Kansas that has more of the up-to-date fixtures and conveniences than the farmers' wives, providing they can afford it, which is the main thing. Farm women of to-day are the most up-to-date and independent of any class in the world—better dressed, more refined, better educated, more moral, and need less help from any source than any woman of the world."

"In our township about one-third of the landowners have water in the house pumped either by windmill or gasoline engine—one-third have a modern lighting plant of some kind. All the women have improved washing machines, some of them run by gasoline power; several have gasoline irons, so they can do a large ironing without a fire in the stove, and I think the best thing to help the farmer's wife yet is the coal-oil stove; within the last four years I think one-half of the homes have been supplied with them. We hatch our chickens in incubators. All that care for them have horses and buggies; some few have automobiles that they drive. We have our church society, a library association, a grange, and the farmers' institute and other social functions that the women have a part in, and they are able to do it well.

"I will tell of some of the things that have led up to this. We live in an ideal community; most of the people homesteaded here—stayed through drought and floods. The men and women that stayed through hardships were made of the best stuff; there are a few of them with us yet; their children almost without exception are good citizens; they are law-abiding, do not drink; their education and training make for improvement; they have come into their inheritance and are making the best of it. The farm woman and the farmer are progressing."

"We are strictly a rural community, the center of which, our church, is 10 miles from the nearest railroad town. However, we have a very active social life, including ladies' societies, children's clubs, and athletic association, cornet band, orchestra, and other organizations. So far as I have been able to determine, we are a very contented people, although not, as a class, wealthy."

A man writes that he turned the letter over to a ladies' club known as the "Willing Workers"—all farm women. "None of them felt as if they were in very bad straits. Few of them would trade places with their city cousins. One farm woman here had the chance to go to New York and be a swell society woman, but she came back home in a month or two and is running 320 acres of bottom land on her own hook."

#### WYOMING.

"In my 18 years of life in this State I never heard women complain of their condition—I mean the ranch women—nor do they consider themselves neglected."

#### COLORADO.

"There are so many things of interest to occupy one's mind in a farm home. I can not help wondering at so many people who hunt up the disagreeable side. Work is needful. It lifts us out of narrow, restricted thoughts. It is not often we see one broken down from overwork, either—it is work done in a wrong spirit. We have a very pleasant neighborhood, all nice people. They have their little grange, a farmers' alliance and literary society, also the ladies' aid."

#### UTAH.

A man: "Your correspondent who wrote that the farm woman had been neglected would be very much alone in his idea when we consider conditions around here. Our schools are equal to those in large cities. Most farmers live in their own homes in little cities of a population of from 1,000 to 3,000. We have good moving-picture shows, lectures, labor-saving machinery, using electricity for washing machines, heating the flatiron, etc."



## OREGON.

"I can do almost anything on a farm. Taught school 10 years before I married. We are a busy people, but have plenty of time to help make life pleasant for others. I have only had hired help in the house about a month altogether in these 19 years of married life. We are thoroughly satisfied with the country, but do not care for town life. We have rural mail service, telephone, take many good papers, including three dailies—we expect to have all modern conveniences. I don't see why people should tire of country life. I feel that the curse of the age is the migration of people from the country to the towns and cities."

**EDUCATING THE PUBLIC AS TO THE IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF  
THE FARMER AND HIS FAMILY AND THEIR RIGHT TO BE RE-  
SPECTED.**

Many writers express the opinion that the tendency of the city people and newspapers to make the farmer a butt for jokes and the subject of cartoons has tended to discourage him in his important work. Several of the writers hold that the constant picturing of the farmer as an unintelligent, unprogressive, poorly dressed comic character encourages city people to look down upon him and his family and to make unfair social discrimination against his wife and children. Some of them feel that this tendency to rank the farmer's work lower in the scale of intelligence and usefulness than that of other occupations explains in part, at least, the desire of the boys and girls to get away from the farm and cast their lot with city people.

## NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## MAINE.

"Our schools have educated our children away from the soil. Our newspapers have ridiculed the farmer. Much recent legislation has been unfavorable to him. The wife is more sensitive to the idea that the farmer is in an inferior class, more sensitive to the fact that her children go to the cities and become unlike her. The high cost of living must of necessity continue until an ambition to produce something can be aroused and fostered. The rural woman has lost her neighbors; all around her are abandoned farms and empty houses that, a little while ago, were happy homes. This affects the country schools disastrously, and children have to be sent away to school much younger than formerly."

"It is well nigh a duty at the present day for men and women to try to encourage the rural boy and girl to locate in the country sections and look kindly on agricultural pursuits. City life and city employment have always had their allurements, but the stability of the land rests upon the development of the farms and land of the nation. To make our boys and girls content to take up this life work is then a problem that the rural woman meets every day. Can the Government help her by any means at its command? These are my

personal views, and I have given the subject careful thought. I am far from women's organizations and neighbors."<sup>1</sup>

## MASSACHUSETTS.

*A man:* "From the standpoint of health, woman should be encouraged in more outdoor work. In every way possible frown upon the sentiment that for woman to labor on the farm is lowering the sphere of woman. Before the advent of farm machinery the mothers and daughters were seen in large numbers raking hay, planting, and picking apples. Then it was becoming, and the problem is to get back to 'becoming' again. It can only be done by instilling the sentiment, 'All honorable labor is dignified.' Disseminate literature in defense of light labor on the farm for women; that it is equally as dignified as 'parlor dress parade' and much more conducive to health. Nothing can be done until you clear up this cheap and cheating, sentimental aristocracy. It crops out everywhere. The church and the school both foster it, and I charge you to foster by literature and other ways the aristocracy of farm labor for woman. Begin with the girls in the schools.<sup>2</sup> Communicate with the school; plan for a quarter of an acre of farm crops, the work to be done by the girls, except the muscular labor of plowing and applying the barnyard dressing. Strawberries, for example; not one-half of the farmers have any on the farm for lack of time, while the daughters are playing the piano in the house. Less piano and more strawberries would add more encouragement to remain on the farm. Get in gear with the superintendents of schools; urge them to discuss the dignity of farm labor, and do it before the school with the emphasis on girls. Encourage the raising of that most healthful of farm vegetables—asparagus—not one farmer in 100 has any on the farm. Woman has been highly successful in the poultry industry, which requires rare management.<sup>3</sup> This proves she could be successful in the neglected departments of farm life.

"Encourage the holding of agricultural fairs, the management and the exhibits to be exclusively the labor of women. I would advise to begin with small neighborhood fairs with numbers enough for competition. In this age of world fairs we make a disastrous mistake of nullifying the great law of self-reliance, and undervaluing small things. Begin with the individual; be personal before you attempt national opportunities. The individual is the neglected farm garden in the United States, with woman hardly visible.<sup>4</sup>

"Indirectly as help, discourage all unnecessary housework. To illustrate: A separate plate for every course; a family of 8 must have 8 plates per individual, or 64 in all. The burden is greater than the refinement (if any, which I deny). Emphasize two points before you or anyone can move woman with a larger sphere on the farm. First, you must rid society of the sham sneering sentiment that it is unrefined for woman to be laboring on the farm; you can't get refined women to enter this vineyard and be shunned and jeered at. Second, you must reduce the housework to actual refined essentials, and be sure that even these are not offset by burdens that burden more than refine. One-half of the housework could be eliminated, with a gain to refinement, and the time devoted to the charms of nature."

<sup>1</sup> See publications under "Agricultural Clubs" in Appendix C.

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Plant Industry Document 870 Rev. "Girls' Demonstration Work. The Canning Clubs."

<sup>3</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 562. "Organization of Boys' and Girls' Poultry Clubs."

<sup>4</sup> Under rural organization investigations, work has been initiated with reference to the planning and promoting of local community fairs. Material for a bulletin on this subject is being gathered.

## NEW YORK.

"Capital may shake its dollars over the farm land, but labor must bring the results. Establishing the dignity of agricultural pursuits means a hold on the farm woman and her daughters."

"The thing that seems to me to most need remedying is the attitude most town people have toward the farmer. He is represented either as a 'Rube' with chin whiskers and his trousers in his boots or as having several motor cars bought with his ill-gotten gains from farm products figured at the highest retail prices. One of these ideas is just as accurate as the other. If city people could be brought to understand in some measure something of farm conditions, it would be much pleasanter and more profitable for the farmer and the city man would appear more intelligent."

## PENNSYLVANIA.

*A man:* "Morally, mentally, and physically the farm woman is not only equal, but she surpasses the woman of the city or town. The oft-repeated statement that farm women are more liable to go insane is false.<sup>1</sup> Nowhere are woman's talents given more scope for cultivation than in home making, and in no sphere is the true woman more contented and happier than in housekeeping. Teach them to be home makers and housekeepers if you can. If the Department of Agriculture can do anything to break up the fad of pitying them for ills they never knew, it will be a good step in the right direction."

## OHIO.

*A man:* "The farm folks are treated with contempt and ridicule. Scarcely a daily paper or periodical of any kind but caricatures and pictures the farmer as old 'Hayseed' with a make-up that is disrespectful and not true. Everybody is stepping out of their way to preach to and exhort the farmer as to his business—how and when to do things. This is more irritating because said in a patronizing way. This affects the woman and girls. That's the reason the girls go to cities and clerk in the 10-cent stores and other mercantile establishments. I have a daughter living in Columbus—am there often—and I believe I can truthfully say that 90 per cent of the clerical work is done by girls, with really no home life. This is alarming. Please allow me to suggest that your department can assist in impressing the girls that the most honorable work a woman can do is to care for a home. It's almost impossible to secure a girl from town or country for housework. Why? Largely because they are called servants or treated as menials. At our 'Chautauqua' here in August some of the speakers spoke of the girls as servants and in a slighting and patronizing way of the farmers. So we say, millions for defense, but not a cent for tribute. So if you can lift up the work of farm women and men to the honorable position they should occupy you will help."

"I think the rural people haven't had the place of esteem they should have. Influence is a great factor in all walks of life. To be called a 'Country Jake'

<sup>1</sup> EDITOR'S NOTE.—This statement is borne out by the department's investigations. For the past 20 years a statistician has investigated every published statement to the effect that farm women contribute largely to the inmates of asylums. Similarly a number of such statements in these replies were investigated. In no case have the facts established any such condition, and on the contrary seem to indicate that the percentage of insane women who came from farms is below rather than above the average. For these reasons statements to the effect that life on farms drives women insane have been omitted.



has had a very disastrous effect on some people. They feel as though they are only a piece of machinery the world can not do without, therefore do not do their best. In all walks of life some push onward and upward, but the majority are the ones to help. I believe if you could make the ruralites understand they are the prop the whole class of people lean on, that the world has to depend on the agricultural people, they would have more confidence in themselves and, of course, do better work.

"So many are going to town because they feel they are stepping a step higher by being town people. Labor is getting to be scarce and also not dependable because working in factories at starvation wages has been considered better than being a good cook and housekeeper. When the rural people realize that it takes as many brains to be a successful agriculturist as a lawyer and there is honor in doing their work right, it will be a big factor in doing away with so much discontent. I think the department is doing a great work in taking this up, but also think it has been a long time realizing its duty in encouraging the farmers and their wives. We are all working for salaries, whether Presidents or hired men, so called, because we are all hired. I think the department can do its best work in helping to secure good prices or a profit on the grain and stock they do raise, thereby causing them to have the pleasures and conveniences of the town people. The ruralites are realizing the conveniences and luxuries are not confined to town dwellers alone. The well-to-do farmers are now staying on their farms and encouraging the less fortunate to better effort. The agricultural schools are doing much for the betterment of the rural community. If the rural people are given a square deal, which I believe the department is honestly trying to give them, I think much trouble would be saved. When the farmers get their just deserts, the wives will have an easier time and, of course, more to spend on things that are a delight to women, whether rich or poor, rural or city dweller, because in education I believe you'll find the rural women more practical in most things. May the department succeed in getting for the agricultural people their own and lifting them to their proper places."

"Last, but by no means the least, of the farm woman's wishes is to see the profession of farming the equal of any profession. In importance it surely stands at the head. No other profession requires so wide a range of knowledge. No other business that would be considered one of equal size requires the investment of money that a farm and its equipment does. No other profession means such long hours of hard labor for the head of the house and his whole family. No other profession brings such poor pay for labor expended and money invested."

#### ILLINOIS.

"We would suggest that the department offer service to the farm woman by helping her to a higher appreciation of her work—to look upon it not as drudgery, but a noble calling—demanding study and preparation in that her selection and preparation of food has much to do with the happiness of herself and family."

"Would that the wage-earning girls of the country could be educated to feel that housework is as honorable an occupation as working in a factory."

#### MICHIGAN.

"The farmer wishes to educate his sons and daughters. As soon as the children get a good education they almost invariably leave the farm, and, like robbing the farm of its fertility by constantly removing crops and returning

nothing, the rural community is robbed of its most helpful influences by the constant exodus from the country of its brightest boys and girls."

*A man:* "The shortage of help has two great causes: First, the farms are not producing the great crops of stalwart boys and girls they did formerly to take the burden from father's and mother's shoulders as soon as they had passed the meridian of life. Now a farm produces one son or daughter and that one is pampered, sent to college, and taught to despise the farm as a treadmill; second, the everlasting craze to live in town. Both these causes have a tendency to lower production and in time will make the cost of living high enough to cause a famine even in America. This will send the people back to the farms."

#### IOWA.

"Housework has been looked down upon for thousands of years. Is it any wonder that girls are looking for other occupations than making the home life happy? Not that a woman should be a drudge in her work, but take interest in it."

#### SOUTH CAROLINA.

*A man:* "If anything can be done to lessen the craze of the country woman to get to town to put the children (so they say) in school, and get the girls into 'society,' do let it be done. My conclusion, after very carefully surveying the field, is to create and develop what I call a community pride or a community unity. This once accomplished, other improvements will inevitably follow. The excitement and craze that seem to have possession of all us southern folks are working tragedy among us."<sup>1</sup>

#### WEST VIRGINIA.

"A point I would like to mention is that you may observe that our farming people are never favored with any appointments, which is rather reflective to their capabilities. Recognition in this would go far toward lifting them to a standard of dignity with the world in general. We have men of intelligence whose practical and experimental knowledge renders them capable of usefulness along the lines of their business."<sup>2</sup>

#### NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### WASHINGTON.

"There is one matter which I would like to refer to, which may not come under your jurisdiction, but it is connected with one of the most important crops to the farmer's wife, and that is her sons. I'll refer you to the letters and literature sent out by the Army and Navy recruiting stations with the purpose of enticing our boys to enlist. Now, Mr. Secretary, the farm mothers are not lacking in patriotism and love of country, as they have proved many times in the past history of our country, but we object to having our boys enlist in the Army. We have had too much politics. We want a little more industrialism, a little more of the good things for the workers of the world, whether he be farmer, ditch digger, or brain worker."

<sup>1</sup> The Office of Markets and Rural Organization is already working on the suggestion to develop "community unity." One field assistant is devoting his entire time to developing community effort in one selected county as an experiment and demonstration.

<sup>2</sup> The Department of Agriculture often prefers applicants who have grown up on farms or had actual farm-life experience. The following prerequisite for entrance to a civil-service examination has been used: "At least two years' close personal contact with farm conditions."



## OREGON.

"I feel that the curse of the age is the migration of people from the country to the towns and cities. We have much to eat in the country, but in town many are on starvation rates. If we could only keep our young people at home in the country; but the mania to go to town to see things that they had better not see many times, and to have an easy time, is ruinous. I think it a curse to good morals that so many girls are being encouraged to take positions in stores, offices, etc., instead of being taught to do housework and to be good cooks. Contentment is a blessing."

## SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## OKLAHOMA.

"A good many women need a different conception of the importance of the 'home part' of the farm life. They need to grasp the thought that housework is not drudgery, except as their thoughts make it so; that the woman or girl who can make a loaf of bread, or cook meat or vegetables so that they are wholesome and palatable, and then serve them in an attractive way, is just as much an artist as though she could paint a picture."

"When the farmers are taught to realize the glorious destiny that is yet to be theirs when they have become efficient, capable, skilled, and intelligent, they will get together and work together for the common good of all—each for all and all for each."

## CALIFORNIA.

"Educate the girls to look upon farm employment as being, at least, just as honorable as any other, and educate the women to make the work pleasant and helpful, instead of slavish drudgery—to bring out and educate the best traits of character in their help, instead of feelings of resentment and revenge."

## WOMEN'S CLUBS—GENERAL COOPERATION.

Cooperation among women is urged in many letters from various sections of the country.<sup>1</sup> By it the writers hope to achieve two main aims—better education in practical matters, and a richer social and intellectual life. Comparatively few, however, make definite suggestions as to the Government's part in this movement; those who do largely confine themselves to asking for assistance in organization and bulletins and other material for discussion. One writer proposes that women's clubs should be formed in every county. These should unite in State associations, which in turn would serve as a basis for organizing a great national farm women's conference.

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<sup>1</sup> An investigator of women's rural organizations will soon be selected in the Office of Markets and Rural Organization to make field studies and render field assistance in matters pertaining to the organization of farm women. See Appendix A for suggestions for development by women's organizations. The matter of promoting agricultural and home economics contests which have a social side is being studied by the department and by State experiment stations. Such information as is available is disseminated by correspondence. For suggestions as to economic cooperation, see later report, "The Economic Needs of Farm Women." See later report, "Educational Needs of Farm Women," for discussions of libraries and reading courses, meetings and lectures, women's institutes, experiment centers, traveling schools, boys' and girls' clubs, and mothers' clubs.

Few put forward such extensive schemes, however. The majority content themselves with suggesting neighborhood clubs. These they advocate, it is evident, not so much for the material benefit they hope to derive from them—though that is considerable—as for the stimulus they will give to the intellectual life of the members. In this connection a letter from Wyoming describing the success that attended a reading circle founded by the writer is noteworthy. The feeling is widespread that country life, under existing circumstances, offers no relief from the daily routine, no opportunities for social intercourse, no opportunities for acquiring a broader horizon. It is to remedy this that so many correspondents urge cooperation.

It is true that the practical side is not neglected. An important function of the proposed clubs is to provide a meeting place at which women may discuss their problems; a place which will serve as a clearing house of practical information. A common idea is to divide the time of the club between domestic economy and literature or current topics.<sup>1</sup>

#### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### VERMONT.

"We need a leader in community work. There are women in town who could do this, though an outsider would have more influence, but these women have more than they can do right in their own homes, and the aid they can give all organizations for the town's betterment is but slight compared to the need. For the great mass of farm women in this town there is needed instruction on how to live."

##### CONNECTICUT.

"Help organize get-together clubs of information and cooperation, and correspondence courses where interested. Government bulletins of special interest to women should be referred to them."

"The department should aid farmers' wives in the formation of clubs that will bring them together for sociability, recreation, and a reasonable amount of intellectual intercourse. The churches have their missionary, ladies' aid, and industrial societies, but we mean something quite different. A near-by country community has a club of the sort we mean. It will have a certain topic assigned for each meeting—music, or possibly readings or recitations, and then a kind of open forum for the discussion of everything from the chestnut blight to the Volturno disaster. Refreshments are served. This kind of thing brings farm women out of their isolation into an atmosphere of clubability and cheery common interest. The monotony of farm life is one of the trials women have to bear; the department may help to relieve it."

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<sup>1</sup> The Department of Agriculture cooperates with the State agricultural colleges and others in developing movable schools of agriculture and home economics and farmers' institutes for women. (Appendix A.) The Children's Bureau will cooperate with women's organizations which wish to discuss topics dealing with child welfare. (Appendix A.) The Public Health Service issues many publications dealing with rural sanitation and the prevention of disease in country districts. (Appendix F.)

## NEW YORK.

*A man:* "Clubs of farmers' wives in remote neighborhoods to study literature, history, social conditions, music, or whatever they may be especially interested in. This would mean a social life, relaxation from hard work, culture, etc."

## PENNSYLVANIA.

"Bring the 'farm woman' to the front in county fair work, where she will get in touch with the outside world and forget herself for just a little while as she enthuses over the great advancement made and the wonderful things the children are learning to do."

"I would suggest that something along the line of county farm bureaus be established for them, or have organizers sent out in some way, for it seems the farm women do not mingle as they should. Also think the lectures sent out by the different departments at farmers' institutes might dwell on organization of women's clubs, to some extent, and women organizers be secured if possible."

## ILLINOIS.

"The greatest need of the farmer's wife, in my opinion, is an inspiration. I think she needs to realize that she is the chief factor in the rural community, that as mother, companion, and home maker her influence, comradeship, and the atmosphere she carries with her are of more importance than the cooking of meals and the darning of stockings. I think, too, that she owes some of her time, friendship, and experience to her neighbors, both for the benefit of the neighborhood and herself. It is necessary, in order to keep one's poise and be an intelligent companion, that one have some time away from regular routine, of whatever nature that routine may be, and when the hours are long and the work as constant as is that of the housewife, she needs to get away from it, and unless there is a specified time for that 'getting away' it is so easy to procrastinate. For that reason I am a strong friend to the woman's club in the country."

## WISCONSIN.

"Farm women need organization. In the rural districts we need farm-women's clubs and these districts to be represented at county and State conventions and the States at a great farm woman's congress. Show her how she can better the rural social conditions. Teach her that she has a large part to fill in her neighborhood besides taking care of her family. I never saw a class of women more eager for knowledge than the farm women at a farmers' institute where a cooking teacher is demonstrating the art of cooking, and, right here, let me say if you would publish a chart with the list of bulletins for farm women and have it hung in the room where these cooking demonstrations are going on, your bulletins would reach many more women."

"Educate the farm women to the cooperative spirit as you have been educating the men for years. Encourage the farm women to form clubs."

## IOWA.

*A man:* "Encourage woman's organizations for practical everyday purposes, for everyday women. But fashionable societies should be omitted."

*A man:* "If the department could devise some way of organizing the women of the community into societies or clubs and then furnish them through your



crop correspondents topics for discussion at their meetings which could be held once a month at the various homes in the neighborhood they could cultivate the social spirit and also keep in close touch with the Government in its efforts to make life what it should be. The ladies of our own community are well organized and meet once a month. Light refreshments are served. They aim to meet at the various homes, and twice a year they invite the men and have a regular supper, after which they have a program. Ours is a mixed population, consisting of Scotch, Germans, Danes, Yankees, etc., but they all look forward with pleasure to the meeting once a month of the 'country club.'

#### MISSOURI.

*A man:* "In my opinion, the organization and fostering of Home Makers' Clubs would be a good means to an end."

"I feel that the main thing lacking in our rural life among the women is organization with intelligent leadership. The women are ready and anxious for the education necessary along all lines of good living. The women have cheerfully and gratefully done what they could to bring about the helpful plans now taking shape to aid the men on the farm, knowing that whatever is done to increase the production on the farms will make for better home life."

#### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### DELAWARE.

"We have so many organizations I should not favor many new ones. Suggestions could go out through the granges, farmers' institutes, the district schools, etc."

##### VIRGINIA.

"I believe that the farmers and their wives should organize and cooperate in local work, and that the women and men should meet oftener in a business and also a social manner."

*A man:* "I think the best plan is for the Government to cooperate with the agricultural colleges of the different States and organize women's clubs in each election district in each county. Meet twice a month and devote part of the day to domestic science and household economy and the balance of the day to literary work. Try to have a library in each place of meeting. By this method you will be able to reach all of the women. Just see what the tomato club has done for the girls. Just look at what women's clubs have done in cities and in some rural sections. They have done what the men have failed to do, and by forming these clubs we reach the homes and that is what we want, and we will have to go into the rural district and hold meetings and get them interested. The grange has done much to elevate the women and if this plan is carried out it will do much good."

#### SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### TEXAS.

"Great good might be done if the women were urged to form neighborhood clubs and talk over the work of the department in their behalf while spending a social afternoon."

## CALIFORNIA.

*A man:* "Encourage the formation of organizations in such communities for the purpose of education and recreation. To these organizations should come occasionally the trained specialist with a full knowledge of woman's true position in the household."

STATE ADDRESS NOT GIVEN.

"The work of the girls' canning clubs is a fine one and one that means a good deal more to some of the homes than merely the products canned. I see in its work the beginning of a social uplift, a faint dawn of household economics in some of the homes about us where such conditions are woefully needed. Can the department through its county agents extend this work somewhat so as to include the women as well as the girls? Could here not be a mothers' canning club, or say a housewives' club, with a director to keep in close touch with the people and the work? This could so easily be followed with cooking classes and some instruction in diet. I do not think it is overstating the fact at all when I say that the animals all about us here have a better balanced ration than the people. Hot white biscuits, black coffee, and slightly cooked side meat three times a day is a bill of fare served to the families in many homes, including the children from infancy up."<sup>1</sup>

## SOCIAL CENTERS—GENERAL SOCIAL NEEDS.

## NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## CONNECTICUT.

"We must have congenial neighbors for our own comfort and for the sake of our children. To-day the conditions under which we are trying to live on the farms here are such that our boys and girls are leaving us for the cities. That they prosper and have in the cities means to obtain all the comforts they could not have in the country, for lack of money to procure them, shows they do not lack for brains."

## NEW YORK.

"A public building<sup>2</sup>—a town hall or amusement place for lectures, entertainments, drilling, boy scouts, theatricals, dances, etc. Such affairs must not be strictly divided between the church and the licensed hotel."

"One thing which farm women in the country feel the need of is some of the community and village life which the Hollanders enjoy. However, we have no suggestions as to how this could be effected in districts where the farms are large and the homes far apart."

"Although she fully realizes city life can not be reproduced on a farm, she feels the great lack of social life, which is the great drawback to the rural community. The Hoosier pleasures of 50 years ago no longer please her. She feels the spirit of progress as well as her city sister. Her many duties greatly hinder her desire to entertain or go to social affairs. She often stays alone for

<sup>1</sup> Circular 740, Office of Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, Bureau of Plant Industry, outlines future plans of canning-club work.

<sup>2</sup> The use of the schoolhouse as a social center will be discussed in a later report on the "Educational Needs of Farm Women."

weeks at a time with only her own family. Clubs should be organized that would meet this great need of the farmer's wife. This has been the cause of discontent among the country boys and girls—the lack of social life in the neighborhood. The church fails to meet this need and is disunited itself. If the several very small and often poor churches would unite in one general church it would be a mighty power for good in the rural districts. As it is now its influence is small. Much the same trouble is found in the schools—not enough interest is shown. The State should urge or rather demand that there should be books of the best authors in the school library, and furthermore that they should be read by the scholars. If they could learn to desire the best literature they would begin life with higher ideals. The grange has done great work in many ways, but in some communities it has failed for want of interest."

## PENNSYLVANIA.

"Sociability. We must have more enjoyment, etc., in the country, or young people will not stay. We never get good sermons, music, or anything worth while unless we go to the cities. Once in a while, before elections, some politician comes along to speak, but even then the woman is looked at pretty sharp if she attends."

## OHIO.

"Many localities need more literary vim—a cultivated taste for social advancement along educational lines. I have tried repeatedly to organize a neighborhood reading club or circle, but am met with incredulous smiles. Isolated in this respect, the progressive woman, with the hard work on the farm, feels the need of relaxation, failing in which the yoke becomes heavy and life is spent in regrets. We may be so situated as to fight inch by inch for a few flowers even, but our heritage is ours to take and develop, despite all opposition and lack of a cultivated interest in the beautiful things about us, pleading for a little space to make life more full and joyous."

*A man:* Develop, extend, and foster an organization among farm women for her social betterment, directly as a stimulus to better living, indirectly as a stimulus to create and maintain a like interest in others with whom she may be associated."

"After a brief consultation with other farm wives, all agreed that the lack of social life, lectures, clubs, etc., were the greatest objections to farm life. And this is due largely to lack of time."

## INDIANA.

"If the department could help promote a more friendly social feeling and encourage the reading of good books, papers, and magazines, life in the rural sections would be made brighter and the farm mother and daughter be made more satisfied."

## WISCONSIN.

"One of the unpleasant things about country life for women is the lack of social intercourse. The men meet in a business way and this gives to their lives a certain variety which the women who work indoors miss. It seems to me that the neighborhood feeling is much weaker now than it was when the country was first settled."



"To keep the young people on the farm (which I suppose is the end sought) there must be social life. There is a call for well-conducted social affairs for young people especially. A revival of music would appeal to nearly all neighborhoods."

## MINNESOTA.

"I wish to suggest that the women of rural districts be aided by providing a suitable building for social and religious or any other respectable gathering. There is a movement toward using the schoolhouses in cities for the good use of the people. The country schoolhouses are too small and with the seats fastened to the floor they are not usable. There are many localities where, within a radius of 4 or 5 miles no church or hall can be secured. Mothers have said to me, 'I wish there were something for my children to attend besides dances.' With a suitable building there could be lectures and other things to instruct the young people and make life on the farm more attractive and aid in keeping the children on the farm."

"Chief among the practical things is the lack of social gatherings. In our land with so many nationalities of different creeds, too many lack the education and are too ignorant and think if they haven't got the religion that I have, don't want anything to do with the next person—so that is our chief thing—lack in social conditions. So when a farm family lives 8 or 10 miles from town in a pretty well settled country, lives like in a wild country about 50 years ago, no social affairs the year round, there must be something wrong."

## IOWA.

*A man:* "The country club for women has not bettered the condition, as they are invariably dominated by the town club, where washing dishes, cooking for harvest hands and plowmen is not at all fashionable, and sweeping floors and dusting is considered as detrimental to the color of the cuticle of the hand. So if a country club is organized, let it be by the country women and women who are proud of their ability to labor and who consider labor honorable. I know of one or two country communities where these conditions exist."

"A neighborhood center where the school should be located. A hall for church, social and club life."

## MISSOURI.

"My view of the subject is that the social side of their lives is wholly neglected. If leaders or instructors could be sent into these isolated country places to help them to plan for better things, it might bring better results."

"Sociability should be encouraged by the department, for when the housewives of the country collect together, at different times, things for the betterment of their duties are discussed—more modern methods of doing their daily duties—and one housewife will derive from another something which will help her in making her task easier.

"Homes should be more modern and later improvements used, especially in the kitchen. Get the farmer and farm woman more interested in home, school, church and children. Have some kind of society to bring the farm women in closer touch with one another, and let them see that all farm life is not drudgery. My idea would be for the farm woman to have an agricultural club—say meet twice a month on Saturday afternoon at the homes. In order to have time for this, serve less cake and pie for Sunday dinner, thereby making the family healthier and happier."

SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.<sup>1</sup>

## VIRGINIA.

"'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.' Sociability and neighborliness is much needed. Young people especially tire of the monotony of farm, isolated life—nothing to do in the evening. Books and magazines are not enough. One can read and read, but not have that ease of manner out in company that the city-bred child possesses."

"Mothers should attend club meetings, but should arrange a system so as not to neglect their families. In our section all women and men should quit work on Saturday eve and be sociable and prepare for Sunday. In our section the people seem to be rushing forward into the future. They have lost that social spirit that makes the ideal rural home."

## GEORGIA.

"My own suggestion to the farmer's wife is: Keep up with your husband—if you want to keep him.<sup>1</sup> The first step from the ignorance of 'the man with the hoe' is the society, the club, or the fraternal order. Just let me say to the wife who is usually left at home when these meetings are held: Strain a point and attend the meetings too, or, better still, have a meeting of your own. This is merely a disinterested opinion, but sincere nevertheless."

## FLORIDA.

"First, a community center where good lectures, good music, readings, and demonstrations might be enjoyed by all. A public library station."

## NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## MONTANA.

"We have no social life whatever. We need church that we may have spiritual food, at least occasionally."

## WYOMING.

"A few women of this neighborhood conceived the idea of meeting afternoons at the house of one and then another. Each in turn reads aloud while the others work. This has lasted several years. The results are surprising. Some of the women had never read a book through before this was started. At first only one woman would read. They have now gone through hundreds of books. They all now read in their turn. They are fairly familiar with current literature. Their taste has improved to the point that they read the best books. This idea should be given publicity, and anyone seeking to organize such a reading club should be warned not to commence with standard works, but with books with exciting plots sufficient to hold the attention of people whose brains are not trained to think long on any one subject and to whom the reading habit is irksome. Taste in literature will improve by practice, but an effort to start off on a high plane will probably result in failure."

<sup>1</sup> Southern women who, individually or through their organizations, wish to assist in promoting agricultural prosperity in the South will find the list in Appendix A, "Promotion of Diversified Farming in the South," worthy of study.



## COLORADO.

*A man:* "The only thing in which I see much room, for improvement is in a social way, and just how this is to be accomplished is a question. With the disappearance of the spelling bees and literary society, it seems that all social affairs have practically ceased, and the farmers have not been together as in former years."

"The average farm homes in the — Valley (even granting such homes have modern conveniences, pianos, etc.) are prisons, the women, prisoners—'trusties,' of course, but nevertheless prisoners—made such by circumstances over which they have no control, or better perhaps by environment. We are starving for social conditions, pleasurable hours, which seem to be outside our plane; many of the women, especially the younger ones, dissatisfied. An auto helps conditions of the family who owns it, but in 9 cases out of 10 simply removes such family from the country pleasures and adds them to the crowd of the nearest town. The merchants of many of the valley towns have their social relations in the nearest town, to the neglect of the country hamlet and its people. Landowners do not live on it—their wives won't. Country conditions socially are disgustingly lifeless. We want entertainment and life just the same as city dwellers. Can you give it? Farming is a profession of work, not fun, not even enough to relieve it. Solve the social problem and may be more will go 'back to the soil.'"

"In the nature of the farm business there are certain conditions we can not seem to get away from. The city man leaves his business in his office when he goes home. The farmer may bring a weak pig or calf to the house when he finishes the day's work, and the chances are the wife helps to care for it. The whole family must try to raise the pig. A young wife may think, 'I will not give up everything but the farm work, as my mother did,' but everything about the farm atmosphere pulls her away from reading, from her music, from little trips to the city to hear some noted speaker, from taking a part in outside social work of the neighborhood where she may be a needed leader. How can the Government help her right here? The Y. W. C. A. could do a wonderful work for the country girls and women if the country girls knew how to take hold and had the time and help to get started. The women of this neighborhood not only do their housework, but some outside work on the farm."

## IDAHO.

"The social life of the woman on the farm is often limited. She has little opportunity of meeting with other women and discussing problems with which she has to deal, to say nothing of meeting with them for a purely social time. When the drudgery of the house is lessened by better equipped kitchens,<sup>1</sup> the woman will have time for social side. When teachers are properly trained so that they may be leaders in developing a community center in their district, much will be done to broaden the life of the farm woman."

## WASHINGTON.

*A man:* "To my mind one of the crying needs is to improve the social condition of the women on the farm. Some good ideas to improve conditions along this line can be had here in my own community. One of the great obstacles of the farm women getting together is the lack of suitable accommodations, and many women, because they are not situated so they can give return entertain-

<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 270. "Modern Conveniences for the Farm Home." Farmers' Bulletin 607. "The Farm Kitchen as a Workshop."

ment, refrain from attending the community gatherings if given at private homes. This problem is practically solved in the community west of us in what is known as the Highlands. This is an orchard district, where the holdings are small and population necessarily dense. It is a new community and most of the homes are small—not large enough to accommodate social gatherings. Realizing this, and desiring better social conditions, the people have erected, at their own expense, a community club house, not elaborately, but nicely furnished with homemade mission furniture and supplied with a piano. This building is used for all public purposes; discussions of the best horticultural methods, community improvements, social gatherings, card parties, dances, and the ladies have a club of some 60 members that meets monthly, not at the members' homes, but at the club house. This gives the lady from the pioneer's cabin the same facilities for entertaining that the lady from the best home enjoys. They meet on a common plane, under equal advantages. Improved home conveniences,<sup>1</sup> beautifying the home, and kindred subjects are taken up and much good has resulted. In short, the Highland ladies enjoy all the advantages of city social life, and there is general contentment. South and east there are communities that are just as favorably situated, but the get-together spirit is missing. They have no place in which to get together. There is little social life in these sections, and the people depend on the city for their entertainment. Farm life there is not nearly so congenial. The department is now taking a keen interest in cooperative organizations among farmers for the marketing of their crops. This is a most laudable undertaking, and its usefulness can be extended by adding a social auxiliary. Government encouragement and possibly Government aid to this branch of the work would go a long way, in my opinion, toward making farm life more attractive to the women."

#### SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### OKLAHOMA.

"The social side of farm life will have to be loosened up a few notches, for city girls think the country is too dull."

##### TEXAS.

"The greatest need of farm women is inspiration. Social-center meetings at the rural schoolhouses. Four years ago I moved to this community. There was no society of any kind. I went to see several of my nearest neighbors and suggested we have a Sunday school at our schoolhouse on Sunday afternoons. We met the first Sunday of January, 1911. There were eight present, three women and about five children. The literature was ordered. Two of the women pledged themselves to come when not prevented by sickness. It took something like a year to get the neighbors aroused to take interest. Now this Sunday school has an enrollment of 70. Every farmer's wife, save possibly one, in reach comes every Sunday. We have had dinner on the ground any number of times, singing once a week, prayer meetings, and two of our neighboring communities are now following suit. It is simply inspiration and enthusiasm that farm women need—the Bible study to call them together on Sunday."

"I think the greatest help to the women on the farm would be such things as would encourage them to get away from home more and mix and mingle with other farm women and get ideas from the outside world—the establishing of some social centers or some kind of women's unions."

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<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 270. "Modern Conveniences for the Farm Home." Farmers' Bulletin 607. "The Farm Kitchen as a Work Shop."

## CALIFORNIA.

"Farm women need the social phase of life just as much as, or even more than, running water and sinks in their kitchens. Convenient meeting places for 'get-together' times should be provided, and maybe some form of organization might be suggested. For my own needs I would like literature more than anything else."

## AMUSEMENTS AND RECREATION.

The lack of variety in country life, the lack of any break in the monotonous round, is an important source of dissatisfaction.<sup>1</sup> This is especially noticeable in letters from the Middle Western and Northwestern States. Lectures, moving pictures, music—even if this has to be supplied in the form of talking machines—all would be most welcome.<sup>2</sup> Few make definite suggestions as to the way in which the Government could help in this respect, but the want is obvious and widespread. The average housewife, it is felt, has too few forms of recreation open to her and takes too little time from her duties to enjoy those that are at her disposal. Regular half holidays, social halls to serve as meeting places for a whole community, and a system of interchanging records for talking machines are among the remedies put forward. It is also evident that moving pictures would be as popular in the country as they have proved to be in town, if they were equally accessible.<sup>3</sup>

## NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## CONNECTICUT.

"Perhaps one great thing the majority lack is a chance to attend good entertainments, such as concerts or lectures of various kinds."

## NEW YORK.

"A little more money to grease the wheels of existence is what the average farm woman needs. The latest lubricant in this household is a talking machine. It was with great glee that I announced that the 69 cents saved on 98 pounds of flour would almost buy a record."

## PENNSYLVANIA.

"It is impossible to get girls to work in farmhouses. One reason is there is no amusement for them after their work is done."

*A man:* "Some mode of entertainment for the long winter evenings"

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix E, United States Bureau of Education bulletin, "Play and Recreation in Rural Communities;" \*Interior Department bulletin, "Social Plays, Games, Marches, Old Folk Dances, and Rhythmic Movements for Use in Indian Schools." Price, 10 cents. Obtainable by sending currency or money order (stamps not accepted) to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

<sup>2</sup> Experimental field study of ways and means of improving rural recreation has been taken up under the rural organization project of the Office of Markets and Rural Organization. Material is also being prepared for a bulletin on the subject.

<sup>3</sup> The Department of Agriculture has established a motion-picture laboratory and is conducting experiments in the development of educational films in agriculture for use in rural districts. It is not yet in a position to supply films to outside agencies.



"The Agricultural Department might concentrate its forces to inspire farmers to put music in the country homes, to indulge in vacation trips, to utilize all intellectual advantages like lectures, books, papers, magazines, to use conveniences and better methods, and to give more time for something outside of manual labor."

## OHIO.

"Another problem in some localities, I find, is entertainment for the 'party,' other than cards and the dance. There are splendid games suitable to all tastes and ages, but some are unaware of these. Young people are of a social nature and this need should be met."

*A man:* "Along the line of improving conditions in the country and thereby making it more pleasant for people living on farms, I would suggest that what might be called a 'sociable house' be erected, that could be of sufficient capacity to accommodate the residents of a certain neighborhood. It would be my idea that the building should be built with a view of using it for singing school, lectures, ice-cream socials, dances, concerts, and other entertainments of like nature which would interest the young people as well as the older ones. It would also give them something to look forward to other than they are used to now. Church governments, school trustees, and grange building managers in most instances have somewhat severe ideas of entertainment, and consequently the young people have very little latitude in the way of enjoyment. I think you will understand that a building along this line would be a great benefit to our farming community."

"A playground for the grown-ups is as important as for the children."

## ILLINOIS.

"As conditions exist now the average farm wife has scarcely any time for amusements of any sort. It is a continual 'grind' to keep the family fed and clothed and the little house kept in order. If the department could give some helpful suggestions in getting up a wholesome form of entertainment for the families of every community, it will be what they are greatly in need of."

## MICHIGAN.

"I think the woman on the farm should have a vacation. She needs it as much as the office girl."

"I would like to see the farmers (and in fact all classes) institute the custom of observing a weekly half holiday. If the farmers' wives and boys and girls had every Wednesday afternoon to look forward to as a holiday, it might be an incentive to a more contented devotion to the week's labors. That holiday once a month might be given up to a neighborhood social meeting in various homes, with games for the young, needlework for the women along with their chat, and visiting for the men and possibly a formal discussion of some live farm topic, with something good to eat for all. Ingenuity and inspiration might suggest further methods of enjoyment to keep the young and old together and help all to know how to get the best out of life."

## MINNESOTA.

"Lectures and moving-picture shows—entertaining as well as educational—to be held in the schoolhouse every fortnight—if possible, every week during the winter."



**SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.****MARYLAND.**

"I think it would be of value to have helps on how to hold socials, entertainments, musicales, etc., in the country. The farmers' wives and children need to know more about healthful recreation."

**WEST VIRGINIA.**

"By issuing information relative to vacation trips."

"Some good pictures and good music would be a boon. We have just had a Chautauqua meeting in Charles Town, and the attendance by the country, as well as town people, shows the need of some outside interests in the lives of the busy 'farm women.'"

**NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.****NEBRASKA.**

"Utilize some of the waste land for a baseball field; raise money for improvements by box socials, sale of ice cream. Have tennis courts and basket ball. Finally have a hall for wholesome recreation."

"That some form of entertainment be given the rural young people besides Saturday-night dances. I would be in favor of a half or even a whole day given them each month. I think parents ought to afford that much out of the year."

**COLORADO.**

"We want suggestions of high-grade amusements for leisure hours by means of such moderate-priced talking machines or picture shows as will best develop individual character and give knowledge of the great outside world."

**WASHINGTON.**

"Think, if we had a phonograph or two in each school district, with records interchangeable without cost, with other similar districts, how much entertainment it would afford to us music lovers. I do not mean coon songs or rag-time, but real music."

"When I see girls flocking to the cities, working for a small income and leaving their mothers with the burden of a large farmhouse and family, and she herself not strong, it makes me wonder what is the trouble. I know it is the excitement of the city, the picture shows, and various entertainments. Why not have a 'picture show' installed in the rural high school? Let the boys and girls help with the evening work and father and mother go with the young folks and have a pleasant evening."

**SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.****CALIFORNIA.**

"For the young woman on the farm the great lack of free social intercourse with her own kind is hard to endure. If the department could put social workers in the field who have the country view of 'good times' with the city experience of 'making good' in providing amusement, it would keep many

girls away from city life who are now headed that way. I have heard so many girls say, 'If there was only something to go to once in a while, I could stay at home forever.'

## VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS—REST ROOMS.<sup>1</sup>

### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

#### ILLINOIS.

"For our husbands, sons, and brothers, comfortable rest rooms, with lunch, coffee, and everything that will keep them from temptation while in our villages and towns."

#### MICHIGAN.

"Next to the trials of the farm hands in the home comes the mode of travel for the farm wife. Automobiles are now quite common among the well-to-do farmers, and those who do not especially need to have life made easier, but as autos are still quite expensive and require great care, the faithful horse is still a necessary means of travel on the farms. The poor farmer's wife goes to town with her husband, often in a big wagon, sitting on a hard seat with no back to lean against. Perhaps she must take the children with her. When she is ready to go home she must wait. Who has not seen farmers' wives standing on a street corner waiting for their husbands, often going into a store to get warm, but always watching and waiting? I think the way the poor farm women stand on the streets and wait for their husbands is pathetic. The farmer should have at least one comfortable carriage and a good driving horse or span. Few ever consider driving two good horses except with a heavy load. It would be saving of strength and fatigue, and economy of time and labor to have a good road horse, but the average farmer thinks he can not afford it. Since his horses must all work at heavy farm labor, they are not fit for fast driving, so they crawl along over the poor roads and consume double the time necessary. I learned how much patience is required of farmers, both men and women. I am haunted now by the faces of the women I find myself looking for on the street corners, knowing they have to endure the tiresome driving in uncomfortable wagons over heavy roads behind slow and unattractive horses. I see the long list of purchases to be made in town, then the waiting for all the party to get together, the late arrival home, tired, cold, and hungry, and the extra work to do after dark on account of the half day off."

"Farmers' wives can visit splendid libraries in our small towns, but they are not familiar with the libraries and do not know how to use them. If they could be made to understand how great a benefit and pleasure they could derive from an hour spent in their town library some few might form the habit of going there to wait for their husbands, instead of anxiously waiting on the corner. I believe a pamphlet sent to our farm homes with instructions as to how to use and enjoy with profit our splendid libraries might help many living near town to overcome their shyness, and form that most precious friendship for mankind, the love of books."

### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

#### FLORIDA.

"The rest rooms which are so necessary would be established in every town if there were a Federal farm-woman's exchange with a visiting health inspec-

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<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 185, "Beautifying the Home Grounds." Farmers' Bulletin 494, "Lawns and Lawn Soils." Farmers' Bulletin 218, "The School Garden." Farmers' Bulletin 134, "Tree Planting on Rural School Grounds."

tor to bring women in touch with each other and make their needs known to the Federal authorities. All such things are details which would follow as a matter of course."

## STATE ADDRESS MISSING.

"A place to stop at, like a rest room, in town would be a great help to make it more agreeable for women from the country when in town on business. We find, as a rule, there is not a place to stop at or get warm, or write a letter."

"One great need of farmers' wives is rest rooms in all the small towns and cities."

## CHURCH.

## NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## NEW YORK.

"That there should be more attention given to spiritual matters in the home, we would urge that the farmer folks give more attention to attendance and support of the rural church."

## OHIO.

"We need to know how some other country women have made the country church and society 'go'."

*A man*: "Can you not put out a pamphlet treating on the problems of the country church? It is a fact that quite a number of country churches are gone down and no services held, and people wish to go where there are church privileges."

"If better church privileges could be had, it would help. In country districts many places find it difficult to pay a good minister."

## INDIANA.

"I suppose you could not take up the matter of the rural church and its possible influence on the community. If you could, I am sure much good could be accomplished."

## MINNESOTA.

(Translated from Swedish): "Several Scandinavians are living in my neighborhood, but they have no preacher, because they can not afford to pay any. The women are occupied with other work and there are no Sunday schools and no Sunday meetings for the children. I would recommend that they should obtain at least one church service every month."

*A man*: "The substitution for the present resident inefficient and usually ignorant rural clergy of a monthly visit by an educated minister of the grade who preaches in towns of about 5,000."

## MISSOURI.

"We must travel from 1 to 6 miles to church or aid gatherings regardless of bad roads or inclement weather. Oftentimes we country women are obliged to freeze an hour or so in a cold church after building our own fire, as our men have no time to neglect their farm work and help us out that way. Often-

times the burden of church maintenance rests on the back of tired women and mothers, while our city cousins have none of these things to encounter. Millions after millions are donated by wealthy men for libraries, colleges, and churches, but who ever knew much of a donation to be made to a struggling country church? Could not the General Government operate some of their own coal mines and supply country churches with free coal? In some towns the janitors are nearly as well paid as some country churches pay their preachers."

#### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### TENNESSEE.

*A man:* "Some of our country women are located so they can't hardly attend preaching and Sunday school, and some are indifferent and could attend if they would. I would be glad to see the day when everybody would have their faces toward the church house on Sunday morning. That is the only hope of our nation."

#### NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### IDAHO.

"When all that can be done at the farm is accomplished, the building of country churches would make the farm more acceptable to the women for a residence—that is, where the farm is located some distance from town."

##### OREGON.

"Foster the country church, with midweek services in many schoolhouses."

#### SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### OKLAHOMA.

"I lived with my first husband 14 years and was the mother of six children. I never was inside a church house or heard a sermon preached all these years. I could not send my children to Sunday school. My husband often promised me he would when more able to, but after our farm was paid for and money in the bank he grew more craving for money."

### WOMAN'S LABOR.

#### LONG HOURS AND OVERWORK.

The long hours of labor and the overworking of women on the farms form the major part of many letters. Several of the writers stated that it was impossible for them to get any kind of domestic help, even in time of sickness, and commented on the difference between the country home and the city home, where day workers can be obtained in emergencies. Some saw a solution for this difficulty in properly directed immigration.<sup>1</sup> Others suggested inducing

<sup>1</sup> The Division of Information, Department of Labor, endeavors to place immigrants in farm occupations. See Appendix G, for description of this work and list of the department's branch offices.



the surplus from the overcrowded sections to enter domestic employment on the farm. Coupled closely with this complaint is the fact that conditions of farm life tend to make the younger generation leave the farms and seek employment in city factories and urban occupations, thus making it more difficult for the overworked farm woman to employ the daughter of a neighbor as her assistant.

A large number speak of the extra work put upon women by the employment of large numbers of field laborers who have to be housed and fed; and one or two, while stating that farm help no longer comes from the neighboring farms, object seriously to introducing into their families the rough element now hired. Others seem not to object to the work, but state that under present marketing conditions the returns they receive from the sale of garden truck, poultry and eggs, and milk and butter, do not constitute a legitimate wage.

Many letters from Southern States complain of the heavy work that women have to do in the fields. Cotton hoeing and picking are frequently mentioned as one of the chief hardships. This field work, it is said, leaves the woman no time for anything else.

The following are some of the significant extracts from letters dealing with these phases of the subject:

#### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### MAINE.

"One great trouble, perhaps the greatest, is the fact that here in New England whatever help is employed on the farm must to some extent be taken into the house. Formerly the 'hired man' was the son of a neighbor or perhaps the cousin or relative of the proprietor, so was not so bad; but now the help that it is possible to obtain is usually a very undesirable member of the household, besides being another for the housewife to provide food for. I see no remedy for this. I know several cases where farms that have been for several generations in one family are being sold because no really efficient help can be obtained either indoors or out."

##### MASSACHUSETTS.

"Too little attention has been given to the part and importance of the woman on the farm. Probably this is so because of the ideal which prevails but which now gives some promise of change. This ideal assigns to the farm woman almost constant work that is heavy, and provides for her too few (if any) and insufficient conveniences and improvements for doing her work. She goes at it largely as a matter of brawn, exercising too meagerly her intelligent thought. But often, too, the man is held as tightly to his daily routine and fails to have time for thinking how he may do his work by better methods—or improve the conditions of the farm woman whose part in rural economy is rated too low. This ideal, in the second place, provides too inadequately for the farm woman's leisure and cultivation of interest in other things than her daily routine of household cares. Her sphere of thought and activity is frequently limited and often her work is drudgery."

"It seems to me that the farmers' wives' work is more laborious than the farmers'. The farmer has one day in seven for comparative rest, but Sunday is often the hardest day in the week, especially during the summer, for the farmer's wife."

. NEW YORK.

"It may be summed up in two words—drudgery and economy. These seem to pursue her from the time she signs her name to the mortgage that is given in the purchase of the farm until that other time when, weary and worn, she gives up the unequal struggle and is laid at rest. This interest (paid on farm mortgages) robs the farm woman of much.

"We bought a 110-acre farm; my husband was a good dairyman and a first-class butter maker, but we could scarcely pay taxes and interest and live, until I took up crochet work. I managed thus to pay \$200 on the mortgage every year, but the strain was too great, and overwork ruined my health—but the mortgage was paid. Meantime I have had only one new hat in eight years and one secondhand dress, earned by lace work. We are of the better class and have to keep up appearances, but the struggle is heartbreaking and health destroying. We have worked night and day. Our two sons have had to give up a higher education to work, and both have decided mechanical and constructive ability."

"Suggest some feasible plan for caring for the farm help without making them a part of the family. Many of them are dirty, vulgar, profane, and drunken, yet they eat at table with us; our children listen to and become familiar with their drunken babblings. Our privacy is destroyed, our tastes and sense of decency are outraged. We are forced to wait upon and clean up after men who would not be allowed to enter the houses of men of any other vocation. Do not misunderstand; the farmers' wives care little for social status. It is not because they are hired men that we wish them banished, but because oftentimes they are personally unworthy."<sup>1</sup>

PENNSYLVANIA.

"Lack of proper literature and time to read it; almost impossible to employ girls or women to help with housework. How to provide board and lodging for farm laborers without taking them into the home and table with the family (they often being very undesirable foreigners and tramps who only work for a few days to earn money for drink)."

"I have in mind a small, delicate woman, with a family of small children, that does all her own housework, milks four or five cows, cooks for extra help, carries from a spring all the water—no time to read a paper or book. Late to bed and early to rise, yet neither he nor she has any idea they could make her burden easier."

A man: "The average farmer's wife is unable to devote her best energies to the bigger problems of farm housekeeping owing to the fact that she is obliged to be more or less of a drudge. Surely among the vast numbers of immigrant girls to this country there must be some who would welcome an opportunity to identify themselves with a well-kept home; thus to be taught to become economical and progressive farm women. If the Government could establish and maintain a bureau, with agencies at the principal landing stations, to this end it would work a great benefit to the farm women."<sup>2</sup> I think the farm woman

<sup>1</sup> See later section on cooperation in which are suggestions for the cooperative housing and feeding of help.

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix G.

is in many instances overburdened with work and the care of a family; so much so that many of the farmers' daughters are looking upon farm life with a shudder."

## OHIO.

*A man*: "Under present conditions it is impossible most times to get help even in case of sickness. The farm wife can not reach a laundry or a bakery, nor can the husband and his help get their meals at a hotel or restaurant, as can be done oftentimes in the city. She is depended on to feed her own people, and often to appear hospitable and generous. She feels she must be in readiness to feed wayfarers that are hardly able to reach a hotel and very much wish to dine at a farmhouse."

## ILLINOIS

"My first complaint is hard work, no profits, and an exceedingly small sum upon which to live and supply her children. If city people could see the farmers' wives and children work and sweat in the fields in June, July, and August, when they are going to the beach or some summer resort or to cool in the mountains, they would not wonder at our complaint. When our work is over we could go, too, if we got any profits."

*A man*: "It is the wife of the tenant and poor farmer who needs help. She has a hard row to hoe. She has very few labor-saving implements, no electrical or gasoline power, but does nearly all her work by 'main strength and awkwardness.' Thousands rise at 4 a. m. and peg away until 10 p. m. That game finally puts her down and out. The union man and 'industrial worker' does his eight-hour stunt and then agitates for shorter hours and more pay, but the wife of the tenant or poor farmer has no time to 'agitate,' strike, or walk out. Her pay is plain board and clothing. Very few ever see a State fair, get a week's vacation, or even an auto ride. She is a slave to long hours of work and her husband is a slave to the landlord, for whom he works two-fifths or one-half his time, and who is determined to have every dime, peck, or pound of his rent."

## MICHIGAN.

"I am not writing as a practical farm woman but as one who has recently lived three years on a large farm. Those three years gave me an opportunity to observe and understand the hardships and isolation, the waste of time with the tiresome traveling back and forth, constant contact with uncongenial laborers and many other unpleasant features. I do not complain so much of the labor. Work is honorable and health-giving. There were weeks when I accomplished more than many other farmers' wives. The work of the farmer's wife is hard, but unless she takes part in the more laborious operations in the field and stables, I think it is not more so than many other women in town who have their homes to keep up and take boarders or sew or in some way assist in providing for the family."

"The necessity of taking the farm men into the family is the most unfortunate of any condition of the home. Labor is scarce and the farmer must take such labor as he can get, often changing several times during the year, with rough and uncouth fellows who have to sit with the family at table and evenings, and their manner and language make this intimate association undesirable for all members of the family, especially the boys and girls. I think the farmer should have a men's room where they can sit and have a separate table for eating. When it so happened that we had to give the men meals, I gave them a separate table with food neatly prepared and we thought they liked it better than eating with the family."



"The woman in town can always hire some one to help by the day at least, but in the country that is not so—if she hires help she must make a companion of the girl and often take her along when she goes to town. There is no family privacy in the farm home where help is kept. The average farmer, or better than the average, does not care for the privacy of life. I can see no possible way of improving the home life and giving the family life more thought unless the farmer can afford a home for his men."

## WISCONSIN.

*A man:* "On the large farms where men must be boarded at the farm home, and where it is hard to get servants and where there may be several small children, the wife and mother is to be pitied. It seems the owner should build small cottages for his help as the Southerners did for their slaves and thus keep work from the home. Where the wife has to cook for hands such good packers' goods as possible should be used."

## MINNESOTA.

"The farm work which has to be done is nothing but drudgery for the whole family from the age of 12 years and upward and it has least pay for our services. We have on an average from ten to fifteen thousand dollars invested in our farms and personal property and we have to work from 12 to 13 hours a day to make a living."

"I asked the sister of my housekeeper, who has tried both city and country, and she said it was about equal for her in this way: On the farm her husband managed to work 200 acres without a hired man most of the time with her help. In the city he worked as a day laborer for \$2.50 per day and she kept 12 boarders and took care of her two children."

"I have always lived on a farm except the first five years of my marriage, and I think I might almost as soon have been in jail, because the work is so hard and is never done. The hardest is the washing."

*A man* "From the experience of 30 years in the store business in rural parts of northern Minnesota, I do not hesitate to say that over one-half of the total work done on the farm has been done by the women of the house, besides they have done all their cooking and mending and have raised the families."

## IOWA.

"The majority of farmers' wives are simply overburdened with summer company from the city, either relatives or friends, who if they were forced to change places with us would soon realize what it meant to be considered the one to make life lovely for them during the long hot days of harvest, haying, and all. We think articles written on this subject might bring them to realize we are not machines of perpetual motion with no chance of a feeling of physical exhaustion."

"There is almost every kind of machinery and utensils made to lighten her work, as well as machinery to lighten man's work. Therefore the fault must lie somewhere else. To my mind a great deal of it is their own choosing. I think the marked clause in an editorial taken from the Chicago Tribune of November 10, 1913, tells quite a story, and I know that it is a true statement of affairs in a great many cases. The marked sentence is: 'The average farmer, says this bulletin (referring to bulletin of Wisconsin country life conference), has until recently been interested in his crops, cattle, and a bank account more than he was in the comfort of his wife and children.' I am glad to say,



however, that the more progressive class of farmers are putting in modern homes. In a great many—I could say the majority—of new houses built, gas or electric lights, heating plants, running water, with modern plumbing, etc., are being installed.<sup>1</sup>

"If it were not for the long, hard hours with poor remuneration the majority of farmers' wives would be content. We are told to be more sociable—have picnics and merrymakings so as to be content with our lot. Why, we can hardly find time, as we are, to visit a neighbor, and are too tired on Sunday for church. A good rest would be a more cheerful prospect than any picnic. While city women are having parties and the children doing nothing but attending school, all hands on the farm are at work."

#### MISSOURI.

"I have been a farmer's wife for 30 years and have never had a vacation." ✓

"The laws are all right for the women. In my mind the worst trouble is with the women themselves. They spy around and talk of each other, making remarks about a speck of dirt or any disorder in a neighbor's house. Awfully nice housekeeping is the tyrant the women bow down to. It is a poor excuse of a woman who can not get help from her husband. I read somewhere of a woman who asked her husband for a wringer and sewing machine the first summer of their marriage. On being refused she hired out in harvest to make the money. After that lesson she had every labor-saving appliance she saw fit to ask for. I serve good, clean, wholesome food to the men folk, hire my washing, and do not scrub my kitchen floor."

"Every one is urging the farmer to raise crops. Now all this means extra help for the woman to cook for, since all these crops have to be attended, harvested, and marketed. From one to four extra men to board during the hottest part of the year is the rule, provided you can get the men. We would not complain if we could see the bank account growing in proportion to the work, or if there were any permanent improvement in our surroundings, but a good many of us are beginning to ask, Who gets the benefits of all the hurry and work necessary to produce the big crops? I heard a very practical farmer say last summer, when the corn was drying up, that he did not care, for he had noticed that he always made more on a bad crop year than on a good one. He was judging entirely by financial results and not taking into account the difference in labor to himself and his family.

"This question was brought up at a women's meeting recently, and all agreed that they were tired of this continual urging the farmer to so-called better farming, since it only meant more work for the whole family with no real gain. These were not dissatisfied women, but just average Middle-West farmers' wives and daughters who can help with the milking or take a team to the field if the hired man leaves suddenly or the exigencies of the case demand it—women physically and mentally alive, who feel the joy of achievement. Better homes and better living generally in the country will do more than all the back-to-the-land jargon. Farmers should be induced to pay more attention to the house, garden, and orchard,<sup>2</sup> for these are badly neglected and will continue to be so

<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 270, "Modern Conveniences for the Farm Home." Farmers' Bulletin 607, "The Farm Kitchen as a Workshop." Department Bulletin 57, "Water Supply, Plumbing, and Sewage Disposal for Country Homes."

<sup>2</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 154, "The Home Fruit Garden: Preparation and Care." Farmers' Bulletin 255, "The Home Vegetable Garden." Farmers' Bulletin 270, "Modern Conveniences for the Farm Home." Farmers' Bulletin 491, "The Profitable Management of the Small Apple Orchard on the General Farm."

long as all the time and attention are given to stock and field crops. With farm homes once made attractive, the high cost of living will settle itself. People will come back and raise their own living partly from choice and partly from necessity."

#### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.<sup>1</sup>

##### VIRGINIA.

"I am living in the most prosperous—at least said to be the richest county of Virginia, in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. Most of the women live the lives of slaves—slaves to their farms and families. Help is hard to obtain and keep. The strong, hearty woman doesn't mind the work, and there are a great many of this class. The delicate, broken-down, and overworked are filling the hospitals."

##### NORTH CAROLINA

*A man*: "The women here carry water one-quarter mile and go one mile to milk."

##### GEORGIA.

*A man*: "On the cotton farms the women and children generally hoe out the cotton, putting it to a stand and cleaning the row of grass and weeds. Then in the fall of the year the women and children pick out the bulk of the cotton crop. This is the life of the average tenant of the South. The poor tenant mothers are deserving of the sympathy and encouragement of all. It often happens that our best and most prosperous farmers come from these poor children who have been taught to labor and learn the cost of a dollar, but the mothers toil on with no hope of anything except to raise their children."

##### FLORIDA.

"In almost all of the one-crop cotton-growing sections the labor question is narrowed down to the farmer, his wife, and children. The wife, if able to work, regardless of condition, makes a full hand at whatever the occasion demands—plowing, hoeing, chopping, putting down fertilizer, picking cotton, etc. The same is required of the children almost regardless of age, sex, or condition. In many cases this seems unavoidable. Poverty is the word that covers the condition."

##### KENTUCKY.

*A man*: "The woman does 50 per cent of all the work on the farm except at the plow, such as cleaning up the land, hoeing the corn, potatoes, cabbages, and beans, etc.—the woman does the same as the man—in gathering the corn, potatoes, etc. The woman does the work at 50 cents per day and will ask for the work, while the men hands can't be employed on the farm for less than \$1 a day. I employ women when I can't get men hands, and at half the cost."

##### TENNESSEE.

"The two greatest problems that confront women in the rural districts are overmuch work and little strength. We need domestic help. We do not claim all wisdom in doing things, yet our knowledge surpasses our strength to do the many different tasks incumbent upon us in farm life.

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<sup>1</sup> Women interested in promoting diversified farming in the cotton section with the object of having southern farms produce more of their own food will find the list of publications under Appendix A, "Promotion of Diversified Farming in the South," of interest.

## MISSISSIPPI.

"To look at the careworn, tired faces, and bent forms of the 'bride of a few years' in our hill sections, where servants are scarce, we realize at once our personal and National neglect and are astounded at the enormity of it."

"The woman living on farms, in addition to bearing and caring for her children, does her own housework—cooking, and washing the clothes once a week, and then works in the fields during the months of May, June, and July, which is the hoeing season, and in September, October, November, and December, which is the cotton-picking season."

*A man:* "I wonder if the gentleman has ever seen a woman plowing cotton with oxen, and what he would think if he knew that this woman's husband was working at a sawmill several miles away, and it was her duty to get up and cook his breakfast so he can be at his work at 6—and yet this is a common sight in the rural districts. What is needed, and what can help this life? Go to that man and show him that the life he is living is wrong. What power can raise them from the neglected position this gentleman sees them in? I would answer: Educate the man who is her husband."

*A man:* "After consulting some of the women in this part of the woods I find that a majority want a law passed to this effect: Make it read that any man who marries a girl in the rural districts who requests or allows his wife to go to the field and work as a hand in making or gathering a crop be subject to a fine and imprisonment. The claim is that it is injurious to the offspring of such to be in the hot sun and laboring in the same."<sup>1</sup>

## ARKANSAS.

*A man:* "The long hours of labor that the farmer's wife has to contend with and the constant drudgery ought to be mitigated—if there was a system of education taken up by the Government, which has been to some extent already, to explain to the farmers that the extremely long hours and constant drudgery is not economy and does not necessarily work toward prosperity in a financial way; that conservation of strength, energy, and health brings the best results; and that it doesn't pay to work such long hours and have no recreation to break the monotony of hard, constant labor. If farmers generally would not make the day's work longer than 10 hours, or at the least 8 hours, it would give some chance for recreation and rest, and a half holiday on Saturday if it was practiced generally would no doubt generally afford the necessary recreation and rest. When the housewife's labor commences at 5 o'clock in the morning and continues until bedtime, no wonder they get dissatisfied with their lot in life and break down in health and often suffer from nervous prostration on account of this unreasonable method and unhealthful practice of so many long hours."

*A man:* "They claim they have to work from sunup to sundown, hoeing, picking cotton in the mud and dew. I saw a man and his wife, while I was walking around among them. Their baby was fastened up in the house 400 yards from them. They said it stayed there from morning until dinner and from dinner until night (while the man and his wife were working in the field). I find some of them in bad shape."

"If we had time out of the cotton patch to learn how to can fruit for the market so we could can our fruit as it ripens, even if we only got pay for our labor, we would be no worse off and the world much better."

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix E, "Prenatal Care."



*A man:* "In this county and my own neighborhood a large number of women and girls can not read or write and in some families no one can read, so you see it is hard to get better conditions until they are educated. Fifty per cent of the women and girls are picking cotton to-day and neglecting young children and household duties."

#### NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### SOUTH DAKOTA.

"One evil for which a remedy should be supplied is the demand made upon the farmer's wife by the transient. By this I mean the peddler, the book agent, the seller of nursery stock, the insurance man, the lightning-rod man, the hunters—in fact, grafters of all sorts, together with the man who has legitimate business with the farmer and who finds it too convenient and economical to force himself upon the hospitality of the farm home. Many a farmer's wife is forced to be a country hotel keeper without pay, and if on rare occasions a man with a conscience does pay, it is no compensation, even at regular hotel rates, for the extra washing, cleaning, and cooking thrust upon an already tired woman. With all the modern appliances for lightening labor, the farm woman has many more tasks than the ordinary home-keeper. Then why should the idea prevail that it is only in the natural order of things that she should work, work, work, and that any one at any time may thrust himself into her home unannounced and demand that she wait upon him? This condition causes girls to desert the farm. It steals their leisure time for which they had planned reading, music, driving, or visiting. They wonder why there is no privacy in the farm home when in the city, town, or village the home is sacred to its owners and their friends."

##### NEBRASKA.

*A man:* "I believe in less big dinners on Sundays. Why make a slave of a woman on Sunday?"

"Boarding the help on the farm, where there is much help, is a large item of work. Why can't the man working by the day on the farm furnish his own dinner the same as the mason, carpenter, and painter, and all day laborers in the city that carry their mid-day meal in the dinner pail?"

"One of the most necessary aids to the farmer's wife is that she should have the fruits of her labor. Hers is a life of toil just as long as she remains on the farm. She bears and raises the babies, which ought to be enough for one woman, but no, she must work when she is so tired and sick that she can hardly move. Only a mother knows what a mother has to go through with to rear a family. She above all ought to be honored, loved, and cared for, but how is she treated? She has to work and fight for every work-saving device that is finally put in the house. How many, think you, have water in the house, and bathroom, lights, or any labor saver?"

##### KANSAS.

"I suggest two improvements for ourselves and farmers like us:

"First. Our men work too many hours.

"We all get up at 5 a. m. during eight months of the year. I get the breakfast; the men do the 'chores.' Their quitting time at night is irregular. In summer they often work until 7 p. m. or later. By the time they take care of their teams and milk and get ready for supper it is 7.30 or later. By the time I get supper cleared away and the dishes and milk things washed it is



close to 9 o'clock. Barn work and field work taken together, they put in about 15 hours a day; I, about 16. My suggestion is that farmers quit at a fixed time, like factory people, and that a law be passed making more than 10 hours' work a day in the fields a misdemeanor. Our men take out their teams at 6.30 in the morning. A 10-hour law would require them to unhitch at night at 5.30—allowing one hour at noontime. That would put us through the day's routine at from 7 to 7.30. Then they might have time to take out the 'Ford' in the evening, and I shouldn't be too tired to enjoy going with them. There are neighbors within 2 miles, nice people, that we haven't seen for five years.

"Second. I protest against the hens.

"My husband shares the common, mistaken notion that the eggs and chickens we sell 'buy the groceries.' The truth is that if the fowls on our farm, and on most such farms, were charged up with all the grain they eat and the garden they destroy and half the value of the labor and care bestowed upon them they would come out in debt every time. To have any 'luck' with fowls you must give them lots of attention. They make a good deal of work, too. This is my question: When I have cooked, and swept, and washed, and ironed, and made beds for a family of five (two small children), and have done the necessary mending and some sewing, haven't I done enough? In any fair division of labor between the farmer and his wife the man would take the outdoors and the woman the indoors. That would drop the chickens on the man's side, with the probable result that on most farms there would be no chickens; on some there would be big flocks. It is the little things, the side issues, that eat up the profits and make life so hard on many farms. More farm women have turned their faces longingly toward town on account of chickens than nearly any other thing. Most of us want flowers. How can we have flowers when our garden destroyers stand waiting to undo our efforts as soon as our sunbonnets disappear. Don't tell me to 'shut the chickens up.' They eat their heads off visibly if they are shut up, and besides they don't thrive in confinement like they do in the open. Nothing 'agrees' with them, apparently, like scratching up a flower bed.

"Yours for reasonable hours and—no hens."

#### WYOMING.

"It is the hard, never-ending work that makes women dissatisfied with the farm, and she is often the one most to blame, for as a whole they are too saving to secure hired help that would lift them from the hardest work.<sup>1</sup> It is ready money that they need to buy conveniences, and yet so many would fail to use it to the best advantage."

#### COLORADO.

"As farmer's daughter and housekeeper, school-teacher and county superintendent of schools, and ranchman's wife I have been almost constantly in touch with the women of rural communities, and I do not hesitate to say that these women are becoming more and more dissatisfied with the lives they live. They are contrasting the amount of labor they perform, the clothes they wear, and their social pleasures with those of their sisters in town, whose husbands are in equal or poorer circumstances, and drawing their own conclusions. Men hearing of the town man marrying and having his wife take in from one to a dozen boarders, speak slightly of the man, even though his wife is young and strong, with no family, and buys her eggs, butter, lard, vegetables, has her

<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 270. "Modern Conveniences for the Farm Home."

washing done, and handles at least part of the money received. The same men, if they happen to be farmers and their wives have several small children, will expect those wives to board from one to a dozen men, raise chickens, make butter, try out lard, help with the garden, and do their own washing, and handle no money for the extra labor.

"As a farmer's wealth increases he buys more land and stock, requiring more help; builds larger houses, which take more labor to keep in order; sends his sons and daughters away to school; hires extra help in the sons' places, and deprives his wife of the help of her daughters; besides, as a man's wealth increases he usually begins to take life easier himself. Papers constantly speak of life being made pleasanter by the automobile on the farm, but you can take it as an axiom that 'the man who drives a car doesn't drive a plow team.' But as the plow team must be driven, an extra man is hired; but the farmer doesn't cease to eat, so the wife has one more mouth to feed—often many more, for an auto seems to revitalize the farmer's social instincts, so that he constantly invites town friends who own autos to 'Come out and spend the day; bring your wife and family.' If the wife is away from home and the farmer is doing his own cooking, he never solicits visitors, either singly or in carloads.

"Serving hot, substantial meals at 6 o'clock a. m., 12 o'clock noon, and 6 o'clock p. m., and clearing up the dishes, I leave the reader to figure out how much time a woman has to leisurely enjoy church, afternoon clubs, or social visiting, even with an automobile on the farm. The remedy for all the trouble is simple. Every wife should flatly refuse to labor for any one outside of the family. That much is a duty, more is an imposition, considered all right by farmers because it has become customary. As I say, the remedy is simple. Each wife can 'strike.' An extra house can be built and a married man employed whose wife is willing to board the extra men. Some one may argue that the daughters of the house share the work of the mother, or a hired girl lends her assistance. This may be true in some parts of the country. Most girls in the Rocky Mountain tier of States marry before they are 20. The unmarried daughter in the house is the exception to the rule. Hired girls are scarce for the same reason and do not care to work on farms. At any rate the solution is up to the Government if it doesn't wish the farm woman to do as I and many a better woman has done before me, plan to desert the farm for the city."

#### WASHINGTON.

"We should have an 8-hour labor law."

#### OREGON.

"The farmer may aid a great deal by sticking to the 10-hour labor system, which will lighten the labor of the woman on the farm. I know a great many farmers who will be in the field by 6 a. m. plowing, and they plow 13 hours. Of course the mother of the family must arise very early in order to prepare breakfast. The husband doesn't mind the long hours of labor because he thinks when he harvests the crop he will get his pay. The hired man gets paid for his work, but the tired housewife on the farm merely gets her board and clothing, the same as the farmer's work animals."

#### SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

#### OKLAHOMA.

"Our young girls' and women's health is ruined from dragging big heavy sacks of cotton up and down the cotton rows. A farmer's wife toils like a slave from before dawn until far into the night trying to do her housework

and be a field hand too, and while she is doing it she knows that she and her children are being robbed of the product of their toil. They can raise produce for market and take it to town and the dealers price it, and if we wish to buy anything the dealers set their price on that also, and we can buy or let it alone. What farmer's wife could be happy, contented, or even satisfied when she knows she is a slave, her children slaves—no time or means for education, recreation, culture, or refinement, and no enjoyment.

"The main cause of it all in my opinion is because the majority of us are landless people, renters and homeless, therefore, a dissatisfied, discontented, and enslaved people. Now, if you really wish to do something to help the farmers' wives you must work to get the Government to lend money direct to the farmers and their wives (not through the bankers or any one else) with which to buy themselves homes.<sup>1</sup> Lend them the money direct on long time at a low rate of interest and then they can buy land and have homes and not have to work landlords' land and give them one-third, one-fourth, up to one-half of what we produce just to get to work his land—and be asked and made to move on the 1st day of January in the cold severe weather. Then the farmer's wife and her children would cease to be slaves and would be free and have some time and leisure to take care of themselves and their health, also for education, culture, sociability, and refinement. Under the home influence and training the boys and girls would be happy and continue on the farm. But as long as we are landless and homeless there is no encouragement nor nothing attractive to keep them on the farm.

"The Government ought to tax the land held for speculation purposes to the limit and let the use and occupancy of land constitute title to land, and then the renters everywhere could get little homes and be prosperous people. Putting \$50,000 in the banks to help the farmers is of no benefit to them, as they can not pay the high rate of interest to the bankers.

"The farmer gets only about one-half what the spinner pays for the cotton, and this causes the women and children to kill themselves from exposure and hard work to pay the bills. The banks of this country usually charge from 24 to 40 per cent on money. If you borrow \$100 March 1, they make your note payable October 1 for \$124, with interest from maturity, to avoid the usury law. This causes these women to work and pay all grafts—those I have spoken of are the worst—and our children are going uneducated and dying from exposure and women dying from consumption, where, if we had our just rights, we could live and let live."

"If the men folk get into a crowded place with their work, they call upon the women to help them. With their modern machinery for almost every work on the farm they sometimes need other help. It is either help them or have extra help, and that adds to the women's work. Our hours are more like 4.30 a. m. to 10 p. m. with no time to rest between times. Most of the farmers are working beyond their physical strength in an endeavor to have a home of their own."

*A man:* "My opinion for the betterment of the farm women of the South is to keep them out of the field so much. It may be all right for women to work in the field some, but I don't believe it is right to plant a crop purposely for women and children to make and gather it. How to remedy it I do not know."

*A man:* "A great many women have to work in the cotton fields in addition to doing their housework. They have no time to read or for social functions."

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<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 593. "How to Use Farm Credit."



*A man:* "The farm women of the South as a general rule are the most over-worked and underpaid of any class of people in the world. Our observation of these people, covering a period of the past 20 years, has been that they work from 12 to 18 hours out of every 24 and receive as a compensation for this labor a very scant living and barely clothes enough to cover their bodies. This applies to the average farmer's wife. There are exceptions to the rule, but they are rare. There is no class of people that needs help from our lawmaking bodies like the hard-working, underfed, and half-clothed farm wife and mother."

*A man:* "They do two-thirds of the work done on the farm. I don't think there can be anything done to help that class without legislation to stop that class and their children from field labor."

"Many of them tramp the treadmill of life for a meager existence, never wearing a dress costing more than 5 cents per yard and oftentimes patch upon patch to cover the holes left by the dropping out of the white dots from the blue-ground calico. These poor women all have little ones to care for. Daughters to raise for wives of men, and sons to raise for politicians and rulers of nations. They raise the chickens and ducks, feed the pigs, milk the cows, and churn the butter, pick the geese and make feather beds and pillows; cook the meals for the family, sweep the floors, and make the beds, sow the seeds in the spring gardens, weed and hoe the vegetables. They wash the clothes for the family, most always on the old rub board with homemade lye soap; often iron with the common flatiron; then scrub on knees."

#### TEXAS.

"Her life in a majority of homes is one of constant physical labor and many hardships, and her constant exertions with no remission bring her to a premature grave. A neighbor farmer worth at least \$30,000 lives as frugal, as hard as the poorest tenant on his farm. He arises at 4 o'clock each workday. The wife and daughter prepare the breakfast for the family and two hired men. At daylight, or soon after, the wife milks the cows, usually three or four, in an open lot. This duty is followed by house cleaning—in the spring house cleaning is followed by efforts to make a garden. At the approach of daylight the hands are in the field ready for the day's labor and remain there as long as they can see to work. The work teams are usually fed after dark, at which time the wife and daughter milk the cows, followed by the last meal of the day. If the farmer has had an unusually hard day's work, he and his men retire soon after supper, leaving the wife and daughter to wash dishes, prepare the kitchen for morning, undress and put to bed one, two, or more small children, making her bedtime at 10 or 11 o'clock. This farmer has all of the latest improved machinery for good and successful farming, but no equipment beyond a sewing machine to lighten his wife's burden. The wife and her daughter not only do the laundry work for the family but for the help as well. At the time of corn harvesting and gathering of cotton in the fall, the feminine labor is increased, and not only the daughter (the mother's only help) but every child, from 6 years up, is driven to the cotton field and often work in cotton wet with or dampened with rain. A regretful circumstance in connection with the children picking cotton is the further fact that he requires each child to pick a certain quantity of cotton each day. After all the crops are harvested, the children are sent to school during the winter months until time to commence preparations for a new crop, when those large enough to handle a plow are withdrawn from school.

"Let us state a remarkable fact. The wife cooperates with her husband in his strenuous efforts to make money on the farm, by performing her duties



with a degree of pleasantness that is surprising, and not only acquiesces in his undertakings, but urges on and drives the children the same as he. Their philosophy is that it doesn't hurt children to work them, and trains them well to know how to work when grown—and to be successful at farming one must go early and late. The farmer now at the age of 55 years is practically a physical wreck, and his wife, stooped and wrinkled, has the appearance of a grandmother at the age of 75, although she has just passed the forty-ninth milepost in life's sojourn. What is said here respecting this family will apply to thousands of others in the South, and paradoxical as it may appear, the wife of the well-to-do farmer has the greatest burdens to bear. There are exceptions, of course."

"Two-thirds of the farm girls are denied an education by being kept in the fields or at routine housework until all their hopes and ambitions are crushed and blighted. The usual result is they reach maturity with little or no education, marry, and bring into the world children to rear like unto themselves; and so on and on, each generation forming a link in the chain that has no end. Compulsory education would break this chain."

#### CALIFORNIA.

"There is a question in my mind as to what to 'aid' us farm women means to you. Is it that you wish us to increase farm production, and are contemplating sending us a lot of pamphlets to 'help' us make more butter, raise more vegetables, supply the markets with more eggs than we do now, and be better cooks than we are? If that is what your 'service' to us would imply, I decline it with thanks. Not that I think we have reached perfection in our line of work, but because we already have many ways open to learn if we earnestly wish to do our work better, and also many of us have our hands too full without any increase in our amount of work. Therefore I do not believe it is literature on our work that we really need. But if such a thing is possible, that your department wishes to do something to make our lives a little easier and a little more pleasant, we certainly appreciate even your wishing such things for us. If you could be instrumental in actually helping us to get some of the 'good things'—by 'good things' I mean such conveniences as the average city woman accepts as a matter of course. The luxury of having the water right in the house, sinks, and a really, truly bathtub are some of the principal things we long for.<sup>1</sup> Then, too, we have few books to read."

#### DIFFICULTY OF GETTING DOMESTIC AND FARM HELP—IMMIGRATION AND HELP ON THE FARM.

The difficulty of securing domestic help forms the text of letters from 36 States. Judging from the number of letters received, the difficulty of obtaining help is most pressing in New York, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Iowa, from each of which from 10 to 14 writers made a point of the difficulty of securing domestic assistance. From many of the Southern States there were three or four letters, many of which speak not merely of the difficulty of obtaining help at reasonable wages, but of the unreliability of such help as could be secured.

<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 270, "Modern Conveniences for the Farm Home." Department Bulletin 57, "Water Supply, Plumbing, and Sewage Disposal for Country Homes." Farmers' Bulletin 607, "The Farm Kitchen as a Workshop."

Some of the writers stated that not only was it impossible to obtain household help, but that field hands were rare and the wages demanded in some cases prohibitive.

Some suggest as a solution for this difficulty the establishment of official employment bureaus that would turn the unemployed of the cities to the farms. Others would have the Government make a special effort to induce the farm immigrants to settle in the country rather than the cities; while others would have State or Federal agencies inaugurate systems of training women for farm service.<sup>1</sup>

Some state that the difficulty of obtaining help on the farm is due to a prejudice that farming calls for lower intelligence than other occupations, and ask that justice be done to farm dwellers.

A man writing from Texas states that one explanation of the amount of work that farmers' wives have to do is the impossibility of getting enough field hands. As a result, the men of the family are so overworked and busy in the fields that they can not relieve the women of any of their household tasks.

As is shown in another section of this report many, despairing of obtaining efficient help, suggest mechanical devices and power-run machinery for doing domestic work, especially washing and the delivery of water in the house, as partial substitutes for lack of domestic help and as a possible means of reducing the amount of physical drudgery the farm woman is now called upon to perform.

Extracts from some of the more interesting letters dealing with the problem of farm help follow:

#### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### MASSACHUSETTS.

"Where the farm woman is the mother of three children or more, she should have an aid, and thus be allowed to give a large part of her attention to her work as mother, at least until the children are of age to help. A 'hired woman' is as essential as a 'hired man,' where there are several small children. This does not seem to have occurred to either the farmers or their organizations."

##### CONNECTICUT.

"The department might help in solving the problem of domestic help. In this section of the country, at least, this problem is a serious one."

##### NEW YORK.

"The question was taken up and discussed at a meeting of our grange, consisting of over 500 members, and the opinion appeared to be that if the help question could be solved conditions would be satisfactory."

"The great need here is more help. We have small towns on every side; each place has factories; the city 30 miles away is a great attraction with its

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<sup>1</sup> The Division of Information, United States Department of Labor, last year placed 75,000 immigrants and others in positions. See Appendix G.

factories, stores, domestic employment, etc. Canada advertises, but the law is against hiring from there. We have written to help bureaus in New York. They say local demand is so great in the city there are none left for the country. This lack of help handicaps a capable farmer's wife, as in no other business are there so many ways a wife can produce or earn by her own planting as on a farm. Nearly everything she can raise or care for has a market value."

## PENNSYLVANIA.

"It is impossible to get girls to work in farm homes."

"The hired-help problem is a serious one. I have thought that if employment bureaus were established at convenient places it might help out."

## OHIO.

"I am one of those who have farms thrust upon them—there is much work required that a woman can't do and there is a great scarcity of men willing to work on the farm—not one-tenth of a supply for the demand. There is a State law here that all trees must be sprayed, but many women are fixed like ourselves and can get no one to spray or care for the trees."

"All our female wage earners are fast seeking employment in offices, factories, and stores, leaving the homes almost destitute in a way, because it is too much for the wives and mothers to be housekeepers, washerwomen—and expected to entertain some, keep up her church duties, etc."

"Why can't an agricultural official be at Ellis Island and get hold of the immigrants who want and ought to farm, and by keeping in touch with farmers in every State know where to send them? That would be a wonderful help and keep many an old couple who would rather spend their last days on the farm from going to town."<sup>1</sup>

*A man:* "Domestic help is hard to get. It drifts toward the city, where there is more to see, more leisure, more excitement, more company, no lonesome hours. Female help should be taught that on the farm they are treated as one of the family—as a rule go with the family where she wishes to go—the pay is sure, and usually, although she has to work hard, she escapes the temptations of the city."

"Labor is getting to be so scarce and also not dependable, because working in factories at starvation wages has been considered better than being a good cook and housekeeper."

## INDIANA.

"Machinery and hired help are too high in proportion to the income of the farm."

"If it is possible to secure some of the best of the immigrants for farm help, instead of drifting to the mines and cities, it would afford help both on the farm and in the home. If it could be arranged so that they could settle in colonies, I think it would be more satisfactory for both the immigrants and the farmers."

## ILLINOIS.

*A man:* "I see absolutely nothing to prevent the country people from wanting to go to town for this reason: Labor is very hard to obtain, regardless of salary, hours long. Young people want to be where they can be in a whirl of excitement. Countrywomen work late, while city people are at leisure after 6 o'clock."

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix G.



## MICHIGAN.

A ladies' aid society: "Throw immigrants away from the city into the country. Instead of placing city waifs in city orphanages place them in touch with country homes. Bring the farmers needing help in touch with the men and girls needing work."

A woman who signs as "A One-Horse Farmer" writes: "The greatest thing is to get some one to spray our fruit trees. The large farmers are all so busy with their own work that you can not hire them for love or money. A lone woman on a small place can not afford to buy a spraying apparatus, and could not use it if she had one, and yet it is needed the worst way. Choice trees are dying for the want of it. Fruit is scarce and very imperfect."

## MINNESOTA.

"What we need most is help—women who would do good, clean, honest work and are fit to be a part of the farmer's family.

"All the improved methods of agriculture are of no avail without trained workers to do the actual work. The hired help on farms—that is, the day help—are mostly uneducated men both as to industrial and academic work. They earn their wage as easily as possible and spend it as soon as possible, and are not interested in their work. The work is not attractive nor agreeable nor clean. The farmers' homes must house the help, and the men do not feel at home with the family, and are lonely.

"We request that the Government establish trustworthy bureaus in every city where suitable, well-recommended women and girls could communicate with farmers' wives to combine a profitable outing and a relief corps. In case applicants were poor, the Government to loan them money for transportation, sending the party to which applicant is destined a bill, so that applicant's first wages may go to cover that debt."<sup>1</sup>

"It is almost impossible to hire girls to work in the farm homes. In former years we could depend on a certain number of immigrant girls coming in, but the unreasonable immigration laws have practically barred single women from entering this country. The law does not, of course, exclude them, but the practical effect of the law is that. Change the immigration laws so that we can get help from abroad without violating any law. There should be permission to pay the fare for honest workers. If control is necessary, the one who wishes to send back for some one—to get girls from Europe—could ask for a permit from an immigration board here."

"The principal trouble in our neighborhood is lack of hired men, and I believe this difficulty would be eliminated if the farmer would limit the work to certain hours of the day and include the chores in the regular hours. Perhaps your lecturers could help along these lines."

"If schools could be established to teach young women and young men to go into families on the farm and take up the farm work where the mother or husband were sick, it would help the farm woman, as help from town is impossible to get. Such men and women so educated to agree to serve for a certain number of years."

## IOWA.

"If your department could find out where we could get competent help and establish a bureau of information so that farm women could be put in touch with the people who want such work, a long-felt want would be filled."

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix G for list of branch offices of the Department of Labor.



"Start a nation-wide club for servant girls. Have each one of them attend some course in the work. Then help only those who will give them their just dues, enough wages, pleasant surroundings, and to be looked upon as an equal."

"If we could only secure the better class of foreigners for domestic help—those filling our cities—the whole affair would be more evenly divided and managed."

## MISSOURI.

"I have often wondered why immigrant farmers could not be brought to the farms instead of crowding into the cities. A good many farmers could furnish a house and garden if they could be sure of suitable and reliable help at reasonable wages. That would remove from the housewife the burden of boarding at least part of the help. Native help is scarce and consequently too expensive and autocratic. However, I think farmers would be slow to adopt that plan as they are naturally prejudiced against foreigners. They would require a demonstration or an example."

## SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## MARYLAND.

"State and Federal legislation preventing negroes from congregating in the towns where they are idle and a menace to public peace and health; scattering them about the country where their labor is so much needed."

*A man:* "Advocate that the immigration officials use persuasion in urging the immigrants to go into the country to find work instead of staying in the cities and eking out a mere existence. Were this accomplished the housewives would not be compelled to go out in the fields through the busy season and do field work and at the same time have to attend to their household duties."

## VIRGINIA.

"The servant problem is our main trouble. All the young girls go to the city as soon as they are old enough."

"Instead of being a queen in her own home, a well-informed intelligent companion for her husband, a broad-minded woman to rear her children with ample time to devote to their education and form their characters and morals, she is forced to be the household drudge. Just think of it. It is a crying shame. We are groaning under the burden and still no help comes. Consider the enormous quantity of work that devolves upon the young wives and mothers of our land. We are anxious to hire competent servants and pay them well, but there are none to be had. All have left the country and gone to the large cities 'where they can see something,' as they say."

"Farms are going to ruin on account of unreliable and inefficient labor."

*A man:* "Our farmers are having much trouble at this time in getting laborers in Virginia and especially in ——— County. If the Government would send some of the foreigners to this county, now coming to our country, to take the place of worthless negroes, it would be the means of doing much good to both farmer and home seeker."

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

"You may read bright, sunshiny letters telling how this or that saves labor, but these labor-saving devices need hands to make them go. My suggestion is this: Our cities are full of homeless children who have no one to care for them. Collect the homeless waifs; let them out to farmers' wives to be a help to each other. The children not to be adopted, but kindly treated, properly

clothed, and given an education up to the sixth or seventh grade. The child would be a help between school hours and learn how to make an honest living, and every natural person would become attached to the child and treat it kindly. Let the children be equally distributed and persons taking them give credentials as to their means and ways of helping the child."

"Help for the women of the farm is growing less. Negroes prefer the cotton field, and their prices are above the means of a planter."

#### WEST VIRGINIA.

"In this neighborhood it is almost impossible to get house servants, as there are few negroes and they prefer town life generally. We solve the question of farm labor by having good white families as year hands, with their own houses, gardens, cow, and chickens. This eliminates boarding hands, except at such busy seasons as threshing, picking apples, filling silos, etc."

#### KENTUCKY.

"We have colored folks too numerous to mention, but they are becoming so high-priced only two families of this neighborhood are financially able to keep them. The help question is one of our most serious questions."

#### TENNESSEE.

*A man*: "This section needs some foreign labor to help around the house."

#### ALABAMA.

*A man*: "You can't keep the farm children on the farm. As soon as they become of age they don't become farmers, but go to a large city and secure a position. The reason is they know that they don't get their share of the product they produce."

#### NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

#### NEBRASKA.

"We need some sort of agency or bureau which will make available help for housework, cooking, sewing, care of children. Possibly farm women need to be educated regarding the wage they ought to be willing to pay. I would give \$5 per week for good help during pressing times. Is that enough? Help is scarce at any price."

#### MONTANA.

"Do please advocate more married hired help on the farm."

#### IDAHO.

"I have thought a good deal about the underfed and overworked shopgirls of our large cities and wondered if there could be a way to get some of them out on the western farms. They would get at least two things they sadly need—fresh air and plenty to eat. The help question is becoming a serious problem to the farmers' wives, at least in the West."

#### WASHINGTON.

"What the housewives need most is servant help, and what they need more is to know how to treat them whenever they get them. The master or mistress should be superior in ways and means and knowledge to the servant, but the

mistress often doesn't know even the first rudiments of what a servant should know. So, first, the wives should be supplied with literature on what kind of a house they should keep, then the problem would be where to get the servant. Girl labor has been and always will be very unsatisfactory, because of the uncertainty attached to it. Most girls have absolutely no conscientious scruples for their mistress—neither has the mistress for her—and they will stay in one place only so long as they think they can do no better; also, they most all are going with fellows, and soon marry and leave, anyhow."

#### SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

##### OKLAHOMA.

"They say in the papers many millions are without employment in towns. Why can't the Government direct them to the farms, where wages are good, to help the poor, tired farm women?"

##### TEXAS.

"In this country it is much easier to get hired men and women for the field work than for the kitchen and washtub. I do not see how this can be helped. Education does little toward making the hot kitchen and steaming washtub attractive. The woman's place on the farm is not as inviting as it should be, considering the position carries so much responsibility."

*A man:* "Single hands are almost worthless, as they bum around too much. Women as a rule help chop cotton and pick, also tend the garden. It would be good for the Agricultural Department to encourage married farmers to move south."

*A man:* "A great many farm women work on the farm and do labor that it ought to take a good, able-bodied man to do. It looks like at times that some of the farmers, and especially renters, have to work their wives and daughters in the field, and on hot days it is awful bad on them. We would be glad right in this community to have 10 or 12 good farm hands at \$20 or \$25 per month; if we could get these hands, it would lighten the work of our farm women."

#### COOPERATIVE PLANS FOR HOUSEHOLD NEEDS.

The successful operation in rural communities of such cooperative institutions as creameries and cheese factories has suggested to many housewives the application of the cooperative principle to their own affairs.<sup>1</sup> In particular they see in it a way of escape from the drudgery of the weekly washing—one of the heaviest tasks, they say, that fall to the farm woman's lot. A favorite idea in sections where creameries are common is to have the laundry run in connection with it. After the laundry has been successfully established, a bakery can be added and the service extended in other ways. Advocates of this plan ask information from the department. They wish to know the cost of putting a cooperative laundry into operation, the number of patrons necessary to maintain it, and other facts of this nature.

<sup>1</sup> The Office of Markets and Rural Organization has inaugurated a project to study ways and means in which organized activity may be improved and encouraged for the benefit of farm women and children as well as for the families and their hired help. This work will necessarily be investigative at first, but advisory and demonstration work is planned for the near future.



In butchering and canning and in feeding hired hands cooperation may also be of service, it is said. The burden thrown upon farm women by the necessity of providing for the hired labor as well as for her own family is discussed in another section. A remedy suggested by one correspondent is cooperative boarding of the hands. This, it is said, will be both pleasanter for them and easier for their employers.

#### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"A good laundry in each town where a family washing could be done reasonably would relieve the tired farm woman of half her troubles."<sup>1</sup>

##### CONNECTICUT.

"A cooperative interest for the boarding of hired help at a convenient locality in each community, where the men may have a homelike place, with games and reading, as satisfying companionship tends to relieve the restlessness of the average hired help. More help can be had for the farmer, and a larger amount of production will follow, while, everything considered, fully as economical. To the woman it would be a boon of great relief, since her time and strength could be used in many ways more valuable. This one pullback, the help question, has kept many a farmer from doing a larger amount of business. The problem thus remedied tends to give country work more the phases of other employment; since the help requires the same hours as factory hands, it will be no more effort for him to reach his destination than the man who goes to the city to work."

##### NEW YORK.

*A man:* "I suggest that you prepare at once complete notes on the establishment of a cooperative laundry. I understand that such are in operation at the present time, but information respecting them is not readily obtainable. This might be considered on the basis of 25 members, with notes as to larger and smaller units. Topics: Space required; power needed, etc., machinery, equipment, etc., with probable cost and places where it may be purchased. Help and superintendence needed, and cost. Maintenance and depreciation."

"A central laundry where the weekly wash could be carried would be a wonderful labor lightener."

"She will and should demand rural creameries, bakeries, laundries, soap factories, and dressmaking and millinery establishments."

##### DELAWARE.

"If laundries could be arranged for plain family work, not to cost much more than when done at home, it would help. It seems to take years to work up a sentiment for any innovation in a community."

"Banish the big harvesters' banquet at wheat-thrashing time, through more complete organization of the work of the thrashing-machine crew, so that a way to provide meals for the thrasher men will be included."

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<sup>1</sup>\*Farmers' Bulletin 353, "The Power Laundry for the Farm." (Discusses cooperative laundry.) Price, 5 cents. Obtainable by sending currency or money order (stamps not accepted) to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.



## ILLINOIS.

"If help or practical advice could be given by the department, more good could be done than any one thing. Ideas of cooperative dairying, laundry, or bakery are fast taking root, but lack of knowledge among the women or the financial power to go ahead, and the lack, perhaps, of interest among the men."

"The only thing in sight to lighten the burden of the indoor worker on the farm is cooperation. We have arrived at a place where the individual effort in many things has proven to be wasteful in cash and human energy, and we are making new discoveries along that line. The thing that presents itself forcibly to my mind is a community plant for doing the laundry work, making the sausage, rendering the lard, canning and evaporation of fruits and vegetables for the farmers' use. Such a plant for the accommodation of from 25 to 50 families, or, in other words, one for the convenience of the patrons of each district school, would cost from \$700 to \$1,000, building included. Now, if located on that plot of land belonging to the district school, it could have a tendency to remove a controversy among the patrons as to location; again, it might be turned to good account in affording a partial industrial education for the children attending the schools, as during the school year they are barred from such teaching at home. Again, the average child would take more interest in the instruction at such a plant than in the mother's kitchen."

## MICHIGAN.

"It was suggested that the department might investigate and collect data of the cooperative creamery and laundry, and there might be cooperation in other things, such as baking, cooking, and cleaning. Cooperation in housework, we believe, is still in the experimental stage, but if it could be profitably established in a community it would leave the housewife much more time to devote to her children, the garden, and her chickens."

"If a community could be organized so that all would bear a part of the cost, for instance, an electric plant could be centrally situated and the wires could be put on the telephone poles at comparatively small cost."

## WISCONSIN.

"The cooperative creamery should be more general. In connection with the creameries it ought to be possible to operate cooperative laundries and bakeries. Three heavy tasks would thus be taken out of the home, as I think, to the advantage of family life in the country. The women would have more time to work out of doors, to garden, to beautify the yard, and to build up a better social atmosphere in the community."

"Our club has recently launched the project of a cooperative laundry. In canvassing the territory for stockholders it was the women who were discouraging—taking a personal view instead of a community view."

"The different town boards invest a lot of money in machinery and on the roads. If they would invest in a vacuum cleaner and go around each spring and fall and clean the homes, it would be another saving of work."

## MINNESOTA.

"Our best solution was that the legislature pass a bill for an appropriation by the State known as State aid on building a cooperative creamery and laundry combined, the State paying one-eighth of the expense of building only, as I think home butter making and washing clothes the most drudgery on the farm for the housewife."

"If the washing could be done at a farmers' laundry, I think it would help lots."

"It is help to lessen our labor we need, of course, so as to give us a little time for recreation. I could mention the cooperative laundry and cooperative butchering."

"No doubt more than one mentioned the plan of a community hatching plant for supplying ready-hatched chickens. I am interested to know whether the department is doing anything to establish such an institution. Most of the work of poultry raising on farms is done by the housewife and by far the larger part is done by the old-fashioned methods. Where five or six hundred chicks are hatched and raised by one woman, who has an amazing amount of work besides that, her lot is, to say the least, strenuous. Surely, a community hatching plant would prove a great boon to her."

"Some advocate a cooperative cannery for lightening the work of the housewife. In time I think that idea will be adopted, when we learn better how to work together and consider our neighbor's interests as well as our own."

"Cooperation seems the slogan of the hour in many matters pertaining to the farm. Farmers' wives should receive their share of its benefits in the form of neighborhood cooperative bakeries, laundries, and butcher shops, during the heated season of the year, when farm life is so strenuous. Failing these, a central neighborhood electrical plant would revolutionize matters in the farmer's home, in the matter of light, heat, and power to run the machines found in most homes."

"Could the washing, ironing, and baking be done at actual cost of labor, we could then manage the housework, care of our children, fruit canning, sewing, and doing for hands and maybe have a little time for self."

#### IOWA.

"Since domestic help is quite impossible, we feel that the work must be done by us in some way. While we feel the 'home' stands first, yet we owe it to ourselves and to others to take up some of the social obligations that the present times demand. Owing, therefore, to limited time and strength, we would like to see some practical plans of cooperative work for rural women set forth whereby their work may be made lighter and more simple. The following are some examples. Perhaps they are already in operation elsewhere, but why could not Government bulletins be published so that all may know: Cooperative butchering, cooperative laundry, cooperative baking, cooperative housecleaning, etc."

#### SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### SOUTH CAROLINA.

"Information about cooperative or inexpensive country laundry, if a scheme has been worked out to do this work in bulk for a rural community at a moderate cost, with details, plans, and expense of outfit."

##### GEORGIA.

"Some think a cooperative laundry would take the most of the drudgery out of the home if anything. What would we need in the way of machinery? Could it be run in connection with the creamery, or how is the most successful way to do?"

## KENTUCKY.

"A cooperative cooking arrangement in every community might be of great advantage, where in case of sickness and busy times we could get meat, bread, pies, etc., all cooked from home within our reach, which seems to me would be a good thing."

## TENNESSEE.

*A man:* "If your department knows or can learn the best system of organizing power-house plant districts, that the people can successfully establish and operate rural power plants at which power can be had to operate district laundries, to which farmers' families can take and do themselves, or have done at cost, the family washing. This work is the hardest and most disliked and unhealthful that the average farm woman is now doing, and I think cooperative laundries would greatly lighten it. At such power plants electricity could be had to light adjacent homes and farm buildings, operate saws, pumps, churns, and other farm machinery. To have lighting plants for each dwelling is too costly in money and time. We do not want the Government to do such things as above mentioned for us. Only let us know how they can be done, then we will help ourselves."

## ALABAMA.

"Cooperative laundries established around through the country and operated at cost. This scheme has already been satisfactorily worked out in some communities, but it is hard to get such projects started in thinly settled places on account of lack of capital; hence the need of Government leadership and aid."

## NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## NORTH DAKOTA.

"A laundry erected in each township, so the washings could be brought there and laundered for a reasonable price, would be a great blessing."

## KANSAS.

"Our county is the banner dairy county of the State. It once boasted the finest cooperative creamery in the State, but because people, especially women, did not understand the underlying principle of cooperation after 11 years the creamery went into private hands. No one laid it to the women, but the vigorous women in our neighborhood missed the break in the monotony made by the trip twice a week to town and the handling of the butter and egg money. There is no cooperation of any kind in the community. You will see readily that we are not club women, or we should be better informed. Our greatest need is to feel 'the tie that binds.'<sup>1</sup> We farm women are so alone. The automobile is really a separator instead of a link in the chain. The telephone soon cultivates reticence. The daily mail tells of a world which encircles us, but we do not touch the pulsing circle. Our world does not write for the papers. It is hemmed and bound and sewed up tight with timidity."

"There is an ice club in this county, whereby the farmers living 10 to 15 miles from ice plant can have ice at a small outlay of time and money. Ten farmers form a club and take turns in going after ice once or twice a week, buying it at wholesale. They haul a ton and a half to two tons at a load and divide it up when they get home with it."

<sup>1</sup> The Office of Markets and Rural Organization is soon to appoint an investigator in rural organization (woman), whose duty shall be not only to investigate but to encourage and aid in rural organization among women.



## WASHINGTON.

"If laundries could be established throughout the country where the farmers' wives could patronize them at a minimum cost, it would be a great boon. It would also give employment to some of the young women who are anxious to earn extra dollars. Failing the above, can not the department test different washing machines, and if one is found that will wash the clothes clean without extra rubbing by hand recommend it to inquirers?"

## OREGON.

"Wash day on the farm. Solve this problem and you will lighten labor for farm women more than you can in any other way. There are many communities where a cooperative laundry can not be maintained. I have been told that there must be 200 families to make such a laundry feasible. The plan of utilizing the creamery for a laundry is not possible here. We have a cheese factory, not a creamery, and it runs every day. Can the scientists tell us the easiest way to make dirty shirts clean, have a satisfying dinner on wash day, and maintain a cheerful, orderly home at the same time?"

## MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

## ROADS AND AUTOMOBILES.

Women and men in almost every State held that the greatest service the department could render to the farm population would be the systematic improvement of country roads. While, of course, the advantage of good roads in transporting produce to market is fully emphasized, many make a point that country roads especially adapted to winter conditions would have a very important social effect. These writers point out that during the summer months the farm population, and especially the women, are too busy to do much visiting, and that by the time the crops are marketed and some leisure and recreation are possible, the roads are so muddy that it is impossible or very difficult to drive over them, with the result that during the winter months when the farm families have time for visiting they find it impossible or very difficult to get to town or to reach their neighbors.<sup>1</sup>

In many letters there is evidence of a feeling that in road building the requirements of the automobilists are considered before the business and social needs of the farm, and that greater interest in developing automobile thoroughfares has resulted in diminishing attention to the improvement of short stretches of side roads serving the actual farms. According to several communications the increase in automobiling has made it hazardous or dangerous for women to do much driving on many country roads. This condition, the writers say

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<sup>1</sup> Farmers' Bulletin 311, "Sand-clay and Burnt-clay Roads." Farmers' Bulletin 338, "Macadam Roads." Farmers' Bulletin 505, "Benefits of Improved Roads." Farmers' Bulletin 597, "The Road Drag and How It Is Used." The Office of Public Roads will answer inquiries on the general subject of road building. This office cooperates with State and county road authorities in planning and supervising the construction of rural roads.

frankly, is due to the lack of consideration of chauffeurs who fail to stop their machines, and rush by farm horses which are not used to automobiles and so become frightened and run away. One writer suggests a national law requiring the driver of an automobile to stop his machine on signal.

#### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### VERMONT.

"One of the most important things is the roads question and the automobile. The roads, as a usual thing, on the back farms are so much neglected that in some places it is not safe for any woman to drive over, and if she can get over the road there is always the auto as they come tearing along barely grazing the buggy wheel, sometimes colliding, frightening the occupants, so they prefer to stay at home rather than run the risk of being injured, when they think of the family left at home."

##### NEW YORK.

"Give us better roads—earth roads. We pay money road tax. Our commissioner did nothing to our road for six years. The money was invested elsewhere and brought small results in any section. He has just been elected again, even though men know he lets his teams stand idle a half day at a time on the roads where he is supposed to be working—while he is at the village inn. Some men don't care; some men don't dare to try to better conditions."

*A man:* "First, the value of the so-called State roads—women where the roads have not been improved are shut in during the cold months, when the highways are so rough and the mud so deep that the low-priced automobiles, which are so generally used by the farmers and their wives, for both business and pleasure, can not be operated."

"There is nothing in my opinion that would benefit the women on the farms as much as to improve our country roads. Amend our laws and enforce them, prohibiting autos from speeding through the country and making it unsafe for a woman to drive."

"The cross-country roads are badly neglected and uncared for, and traveling with a horse and carriage is more uncomfortable and tedious than it was long ago. The macadam roads are cared for, while the other roads around the vicinity receive no care whatever."

##### NEW JERSEY.

"A suggestion, perhaps irrelevant—the enforcement of the clearing of the roadside of papers, billboards, poison ivy, and widening of roads, making it more safe and beautiful for woman, man, and child."

##### OHIO.

"Until the roads are improved we can not hope to have good farmers, which mean good crops."

"One of the great needs of farmers' wives (as well as farmers) is good roads. This is the request, that instead of the Government making large appropriations to river and harbor improvements, and expending enormous sums in Government buildings, adequate appropriations be made for the improvement of country roads."

"We advocate making it mandatory that a chain of interstate and inter-county roads be constructed along main highways out of proper material that will enable the 'farm woman' to transport her marketing to a market in the least possible time without being worn out and fatigued over a rough and rocky road; also that they may drive a vehicle or a machine to and from church without overdoing themselves to get ready for a long tiresome journey that should be made in one-fourth the time; that they may make calls in spare time and not consume a whole day in going 4 to 5 miles. This one action alone will relieve the monotony of rural life, which causes many a son and daughter to leave the 'dear old farm.' Telephone lines along the roads that are almost impassable during winter months lie dormant most of the winter season for reason of bad roads to travel to adjust the trouble. This alone cuts off all line of communication on a gloomy day. Summing up the cause of the prime neglect to the farm women, cause of monotony on the farm, cause of sad neglect of the 'hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world'—bad roads. Now if the department is in earnest for the elevation of the woman on the farm let the slogan be 'Good roads'—nothing but good roads."

## INDIANA. .

"I think the one thing the farm women of this community need above every thing else is good roads. In summer we are too busy to go any place much, and in winter, when we have a little leisure, the roads are impassable."

"Put competent civil engineers in charge of the country roads."

## ILLINOIS.

*A man:* "Good roads. Where is a woman that can be happy, stay at home all summer and slave for the men and the hired men, and when winter and bad roads come be content to stay at home on account of bad roads? Give us good roads, so this good woman could have a rest after supper by going 20 miles to see her sister or her mother or father. She would get some fresh air, sleep good, and be ready with a light heart for to-morrow. Let us have good roads, better homes, better social facilities, closer to our high schools and to our churches."

"Laws to govern owners and chauffeurs of autos, that women can drive with safety on our country roads."

"Good roads are the farm women's, as well as the farmers', crying need. Good roads would make it unnecessary for us to hibernate during part of the winter and early spring. It seems to me that more could be accomplished by taking the road work out of the farmer's hands, for the farmer is a busy man, and in the spring, when the roads need the attention, the farmer must work in the field."

"The farmer's wife stays at home many weeks because of the bad condition of the public highways. The roads become impassable, and then when they are traveled they are dangerous, and it takes hours to reach a destination a few miles away. In chilly weather many have not sufficient wraps. If the same amount of money was invested by our Government in hard roads that has been in the Panama Canal, I think it would help matters. To tax the farmers for these roads will take two-thirds of the farms from them. With our poor land in southern Illinois, it is all we can do to keep food and clothing for our children. The farmers' wives must stay at home in the winter on account of



mud roads, in summer on account of dust. The farmers' wives like to have some advantages of the lectures and concerts by good talent as well as city people do, but with no roads to reach them we must stay at home."

*A man:* "They say the crying need in this vicinity is better roads; that while many of them have automobiles and all of them horses and carriages, there is much of the time in winter when it is impossible to use them; that if we could have better road conditions it would do much to relieve the monotony of farm life for them."

*A man:* "First and best of all, I believe, is to make good roads, so the farmer's family can come and go like city folk, and not be 'tied down' for about three months every spring because of impassable roads. The farmer nowadays is not a pauper by any means. They have conveyances for traffic, if they had the roads; and it is the truth when I say only about one man in every 100 knows anything about making good roads. Push the good-roads movement, with 'Uncle Sam' behind it, and you will help make every farmers' family happy."

"We all agree that there should be a law governing the automobile drivers; that is, to make them keep the lights burning after dark. I have seen autos with lights out, when they were only a few feet from my horse. Second, I would say that all back roads are not built wide enough to allow an auto to pass a wagon at night without driving into the ditch. These roads I have mentioned are without gravel, graded up very little, contain poor culverts, shallow ditches, and are muddy until about the last of June, and by September they begin to get muddy again. Third, I hope some more thought will be taken on the question of autos, to make auto drivers take out a license to run an auto. There are a number of lady auto drivers and boys as young as 14 and 15 years, who take out pleasure parties to the country for a day."

"Good roads will benefit women. The Government can not help them more than by giving them good roads to travel over."

#### WISCONSIN.

"It certainly is no longer safe for grown people to travel the roads, to say nothing of little children, unless there can be more stringent rules and strict enforcement. The remedy seems to be a separate track for autos, motorcycles, and bicycles as well. Those who are able to own these should pay the extra expense. 'Speed rules' are continually being violated in our cities, and what can be expected on lonely country roads? In the country where I live are many short turns in the road—views obstructed by trees and bushes. Often the auto gives no warning. A perfectly safe horse might easily be too slow in getting out of the way. This happened lately: At a low, swamp place in the road were some cows walking across the road. The driver, measuring the distance, showed what seemed proper carefulness, but one of the cows becoming frightened, backed up and was struck. Of course, they didn't stop to see if any harm was done, and if the cow died the next day no one would ever know the cause."

"One of the greatest hindrances to advancement and sociability among farm women here is bad roads. About half the time during the year these are in such a bad condition that we simply can go nowhere. Can not you help us somewhat in this matter? Suppose you stop sending out 'free seeds' and use the money thus saved annually to apply to good roads building and you will be doing something much more worth while."

"I know the free distribution of seed is a big expense to the Government. This money can be used in some other way and would benefit us much more. I would suggest that it be used in fixing the roads of the rural districts."

## IOWA.

"As to pastime and societies, you can do little unless better roads and quicker means of travel could be had. For example, if a family lives 5 or 6 miles from church or has to go a certain day to a society's meeting, the woman of the house may have other work to do or feel too worn out to go. The country at present does not afford the time and convenience for suitable society gatherings."

"I speak for better roads, particularly more trolleys. I long for an auto cheap enough to be available and simple in construction. I would encourage the grange and the country church; but I would have the country woman get away from home more that she may be glad to get back and realize her blessings."

"Some plan to be evolved whereby all railroads crossing country roads should be on a different level, either above or below the country road, as circumstances direct. Many country women and children drive, and crossings are a menace."

## MISSOURI.

"One little, hard-working mother of six daughters said to me: 'Why, when we get good roads we can buy an automobile as we did our piano—on the installment plan—and raise turkeys and poultry to pay for it, and one of my girls can drive it; then nothing is far.' The greatest good can come to us over good roads."

"The greatest drawback to the farm woman is bad roads, being thereby deprived of meeting for religious, social, and educational purposes."

## SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## VIRGINIA.

"Good roads will greatly promote social life. In some sections women are almost 'shut-ins' during the wintry season, when the roads become well-nigh impassable, hence the exodus of women to the city at the beginning of the season."

"I believe that good roads are more important and will directly or indirectly benefit more people than any other one thing. We hope that our National Government may soon be able to help improve our roads under expert supervision."

"Good roads would greatly enhance the valuation of our farms, and we could haul our produce to market at all times of the year; we could get into our auto and go off 25 or 30 miles and exchange a few neighborly salutations with friends whom we had not seen for years, and have an all-round good time. So I say, therefore, that good roads is the chief object to have in order to keep young men and women on the farm."

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

*A man:* "Suffer me to deviate from the agricultural subject and state to you that the ladies desire me to call your attention to the fact that there should be

passed a law more strictly governing the automobile speed, as horses and mules are so easily frightened that ladies and children are afraid to drive out to town and church, fearful of accidents."

## GEORGIA.

"I believe that there is no need as imperative and as far-reaching as the good-road movement. The improvement of our highways is not only of untold advantage to the farmers in marketing their crops, but removes the isolation of the farmer's family. After all, it is the isolation, the lack of human sympathy, human cooperation, which makes country life undesirable. Good roads would make practicable 'housewives' leagues'—better still, 'mothers' clubs'—and who can rightly estimate the power of the mother in the endeavor to make home more attractive? Cooperation is the keynote of the situation, and good roads will create a rural civilization, the greatest need of our time."

## WEST VIRGINIA.

"We can think of nothing in general that would give the women more pleasure than to give us better roads. For miles the roads are so narrow one can not pass another vehicle of any kind, not to speak of the automobile, and it seems to us that we could go out and make better roads than we have. Besides the roads being narrow, they are rough and full of ditches that are put there, they say, to run the water out. Those who live any distance from the railroad seldom—and some never—get away from home, owing to the bad roads and automobiles, at which most of the horses take fright, and in this day of automobiles the farm women are kept closer at home than ever."

## KENTUCKY.

*A man:* "First, we need transportation. Women are not in bad any more than everybody here—11 counties adjoining without a railroad. Help us first in the matter of good roads that we may go 45 miles to railroad station and to market."

*A man:* "Speaking of our community, there are only five or six months in the year that the roads can be used with any pleasure or on which the farmers could haul much of a load. This being the case, the farmer's wife and children are tied up at home practically the rest of the year. Even if we had the best of churches and schools, in these winter months, with such roads they can not be attended. Give the farmer better roads, he will be happier, more prosperous, more able to provide the means whereby his better half may be made happy, his children can go to school, his wife to church and to town when she likes, and country life much more pleasant. A better class of people would thus be attracted to the country, we would be able to hold our own boys and girls on the farm, and thus we would all be better off."

## TENNESSEE.

"Government aid for the highways of this country would to-day help the financial, educational, social, and moral uplift of this country more than anything that could be done for the farmer's wife. Give us Government aid for good roads, especially over the rural routes and star routes first, and you will cure many of the farmer's wife's troubles and lift her and the children in an educational way where they can help themselves."



"Better roads, and different ways of working them, which would help us to get to town quicker either with our produce or just for an outing. The way it is here now, it is a disagreeable trip. We can not get our produce and fruit to market in good condition; and no enjoyment at all in a trip to town."

## ALABAMA.

"I think the most important aid the Government could give the housewives (and this relief would benefit everybody) would be Government aid in making and repairing public roads, especially roads used as post roads, this work to be done under the direct supervision of competent civil engineers and in cooperation with the State and county highway commission; the counties, States, and United States Government to bear equal parts in the expense of such work. The benefits that the housewives would receive from this proposition would be good roads to travel over to market their various products—poultry, eggs, feathers, vegetables, fruits, and berries—and to go to the towns to do their shopping and to go to church and social gatherings, and for their children to go to the rural schools."

## MISSISSIPPI.

*A man:* "The automobile is a terror to the farm woman. Many of them have horses and buggies, but are afraid to drive on the public highway for fear of meeting an automobile and frightening their horses and make them run away. If the auto driver would stop, most horses will go by. Some drivers want to go by without halting, and the rural horse, or horses that are kept in the country, that does not see a car often is afraid of them and will turn around suddenly and capsize the buggy and probably run away. The suggestion is to enact laws forcing the car driver to stop at once when he is flagged, and allow the buggy or wagon or horseback man to pass by. Our county officials have enacted a law forcing them to stop and if they refuse to stop they are fined \$25, but the trouble we have is people coming from other counties and even from other States. While some are very genteel and courteous, others will drive by and look at your horse run away. If our county law could be made a National law, we could feel more safe to drive on the highway."

"Good roads would mean more to us than anything you could do. It would not help them so much about their work as it would their 'play.' They would have a chance to go around a little in the winter time—the only time the country women have for such 'undue levity.' Our roads are worked by contractors now, and they are inspected by our county supervisors. These supervisors accept and pay for any kind or no kind of work just because they are afraid they won't be reelected if they make the contractors do their duty. Now if the Government would furnish us a road inspector that would compel the contractors to do their duty, it would be a fine thing for us."

"The money derived from the sale of milk, butter, chickens, eggs, fruits, and vegetables is generally used by the women as they please, but during the months of January, February, March, and April, if they have any of these things to sell it is difficult to get them to market owing to the conditions of the roads at this season of the year; and for this reason they are unable to attend church and are deprived of most of the other social amenities of life that are so dear to a woman's heart. The improvement of the public roads would enable the children in rural districts from 5 to 10 years of age to attend school dur-

ing the winter months. As it is now, those smaller children are for several months each year a constant care on their mother at home because they can't attend school on account of the impassable condition of the roads."

## ARKANSAS.

"The unanimous opinion of the farm women is that we need good roads. There are lectures in town in the winter, the farm woman's leisure time, which she might attend, only we live 30 minutes from town in summer and 3 hours in winter. See?"

"I can offer one suggestion: That the construction and upkeep of public roads be under the supervision of the United States Government. My views are based on my observations, which are limited to this county, which is one of the most wealthy and productive in the State. Good roads would make country life ideal, and in a short time bring the people here, as the land is reasonable in price, adapted to all kinds of farming, good railroad facilities, good markets, and good climate. The present law puts the supervision of the roads with the county judge. In this instance he was put in office by the vote of the country people mainly for the promises he made to better the roads, the retiring judge having spent the road money in cutting new roads of no particular use and neglecting the main-traveled roads. With the exception of a very few miles, the roads in this county have not been touched this year, and to my knowledge the present judge has refused to issue orders for lumber to repair bridges which are in such shape as to make travel and hauling almost impossible after the summer rains, and it can easily be seen what effects the winter rains will have."

## NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## NEBRASKA.

"We live in a very fertile country, which will raise almost anything in the line of crop and never a failure. About all we lack to make this country an ideal place to live in is better railroad service. We live 14 miles from a railroad, and the wagon road is not the best. Could there not be a law passed to give the United States Government a right to build roads through these vacant counties? Our land would advance 75 per cent if we could have better railroad service."

## KANSAS.

"We need good roads, and railroads, as we are 15 miles either way from a railroad. Taking eggs and dairy products over poor roads 15 miles is an uphill pull."

*A man:* "Now, they talk good roads from ocean to ocean. Who would this good road benefit? The idle rich: the tourist. Now, if the farmers allow them to build this good road through their counties and then the farmers pay the bill, they would be pretty easy. I am a lover of good road building myself, but I would like to see them built where the people who built them and paid for building them would get the worth of their money out of them. Why is it they don't talk of building good inland roads where the farmer has to travel and haul his grain over? There are very few farmers in any one county that this ocean-to-ocean road would benefit."

## WYOMING.

"The auto road needs no exploitation by you, but you can tell something about the care of a road only used by a few families who have not much time or

money to spend on improvements. No one has yet told us how to get across sand, which is now impassable for automobiles and loaded teams, except by construction, the cost of which is prohibitive and which will be washed out by the first summer flood."

"I would like to see the law provide a path master in each and every township. Also that each and every male tax-paying citizen shall work out their poll tax by improving the roads. And that the amount of the woman's poll tax shall be used in buying material, such as lumber or tiling for bridges and dynamite for blasting in the mountains. All shall be used for buying necessary equipment for improvement of roads in said township."

#### IDAHO.

"We are handicapped by the fact that we can not get a road into our place, which is only one-half mile from the termination of the county road, and the road would only have to be built over a cleared level space of one-half mile in length. Even after reaching the county road it is almost impassable after a rain or snow for a single rig to drive over, so you can see we are virtually shut in. All appeals we have made to the commissioners have been responded to with unkept promises, yet they find time and money to expend on auto roads in their part of the county. It is impossible for us to take our timber over this road, so how can we clear and cultivate our land? In my opinion good roads are the most essential element in the development of a country."

#### WASHINGTON.

"If Uncle Sam has money to improve the public highways, let a portion of it be put into some of the backwoods roads, or the mountain roads, to make them passable."

"The school is so far away and the road so muddy it is awful. Could you not do something to help?"

"The road building in this county has cost many thousands of dollars. When we get the right kind of education into the heads of the men, then maybe we will have some good roads. At present everything is in the hands of grafters. I am glad to know that the boys and girls in some parts of the United States are interested and are taught road making. One section of the county road is a crushed-rock road over which many autos drive. One man whose home is on this section has the graft of scratching along the edges of the roads, supposedly to fill up the ruts made by the wheels. All the effect of his work that I could see was that he dragged many chunks of sharp rocks up from the outer rims and scattered them all over the center of the road. As I was passing I met a big auto with a busted tire. The man on the section receives pay for this kind of work. And we good people pay big taxes that this kind of graft and much more of a worse nature may continue."

#### SOUTHWESTERN QUARTER.

#### ARIZONA.

"The first great need of this community is good roads. Not automobile roads. The State and county have seen that nearly all the money spent for roads in this great fruit country has gone for automobile roads, and we poor farmers' wives must travel over the roughest of roads in poor vehicles."



## CALIFORNIA.

"Good roads and how to get them is the all-absorbing question, and can be settled only by a liberal application of paternalism on the part of this Government."

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.<sup>1</sup>

## NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## CONNECTICUT.

"First, justice. Let the United States Government do away with the group of mail boxes to be found on all our crossroads. Our cousins who live in the cities have their mail delivered from two to five times a day at their residences. Our farm is our place of business, yet we have our mail delivered once a day at the crossroads, to which it is necessary to walk through all conditions of weather to mail letters and to get our mail. As there is no telling when the carrier will arrive, we go twice or often miss the chance to send our important letters."

## ILLINOIS.

"Extension of free rural delivery everywhere possible."

## MINNESOTA.

"The rural mail distribution brings her communications with the world to her home, or as near as her location on the route allows. Complaint might be made that the more remote districts be supplied with better mail service."

"Rural delivery of mail to all farmhouses. At present, in the Middle West, many living on crossroads must go a half mile to the mail box. Frequently the women or children must go for the mail."

## MISSOURI.

*A man:* "I am of the opinion that more depends upon the man in charge of affairs on the farm, in the interest he takes in providing the things that go to make the farm attractive and as pleasant a place to live in as the town or city, than does on our Government. Some of the most intelligent and best posted and careful readers among farmers' wives and daughters in my locality say if we could get our daily mails as promptly as our town folks do, or as good as is possible for us, if the rural delivery of mails came from our nearest railroad station, instead of coming from our county seat, double the distance away, in rainy weather making our mails one, two, and sometimes three days late."

## SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## MARYLAND.

"Better mail service, that so many sections are favored with."

## VIRGINIA.

"Urgent requests should be made to the Postmaster General for more R. F. D. mail routes. Mail facilities in sparsely settled districts are in some cases very deficient. If I resided in a place where I could not get my mail daily I would consider life somewhat dreary."

<sup>1</sup> These letters were written in 1913 and therefore before a number of recent changes in the rural delivery system and parcel post were inaugurated. Suggestions regarding parcel post will be found in a later bulletin dealing with the economic needs of farm women.

"As to the mail, we ought to have two deliveries—morning and evening—that mail may not be 24 hours behind the running schedule of the world. Our letter carrier should be required to blow a whistle. Often we waste half or three-quarters of a morning's precious hour to see the man on mail business. Then our ears will do the watching for him while we attend to our business through the house."

FLORIDA.

"The long distance from post offices or any mail route is another dreadful hindrance, as in my own case I am 14 miles from any post office or mail route."

KENTUCKY.

"We can see no means that would be of greater uplift to the farmer, his wife, and family, than that of good roads and better rural routes and more of them."

NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

NEBRASKA.

"I hardly see how you can help the women of the sandhills, unless it were by bringing us nearer the railroad and giving us better mail service; being 50 miles from railroad and receiving mail but twice a week."

COLORADO.

"Among the needs is an extension of the mail service, so that all housewives may receive mail."

IDAHO.

"A postal regulation might be secured by which it would be possible for a mail carrier to deliver mail received from one farm at another without first carrying to the post office. Mail sent by one of us to-day can not be delivered to our neighbor before to-morrow."<sup>1</sup>

WASHINGTON.

"I know I am expressing the views of all the better class of women in our community when I say the greatest benefit and pleasure the Government can give us is rural delivery. Living in a mountainous country 2½ miles from the post office, it requires at least half a day to make the trip, as our supplies are gotten at the same time, consequently we seldom receive our mail oftener than once a week. Now that we have parcel post, rural delivery would be a double blessing."

THE TELEPHONE.

The telephone is discussed specifically in comparatively few letters. The correspondents appear to appreciate it, but in the majority of cases assert that the rates are too high. A Kansas woman, for example, states that they would use the telephone to ascertain the

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<sup>1</sup> The postal officials state that carriers are authorized to deliver mail from one box to another where the point of delivery is on their route and ahead of the place where collected.

prices at the nearest market of the commodities they have for sale but that the toll charge is too heavy. Among those who discuss the question there is a general belief in the advantages of Government ownership. One argument advanced for this is the inconvenience created by two or more systems in the same community.

#### NORTHEASTERN QUARTER.

##### NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"Some think if the Government owned the telegraph and telephone it might reduce the expense and so bring it within the means of more farmers. As it is now in this section, all the farmers have to pay \$18 per year in order to have a telephone, and then have to pay besides for every message sent."

"Cheaper telephone service."

##### VERMONT.

"If we could have cheaper telephone rates and longer distance, as we had before the present company took it all, they would be pleased. Most all had telephones when it was \$15 per year. Then rates were raised to \$18, and only a short-distance talk. Many had telephones removed and they miss them much, but don't feel able to pay so much."

##### NEW YORK.

"Put the telephone companies under Government control, so that service can be furnished at reasonable rates. Eighteen dollars a year is too much. Few feel like paying so much. The higher the price the more limited service is given."

##### MICHIGAN.

"We need a better system of telephone service in the country."

"The telephone system is a grievous one, to say the least. For instance, two phone companies in this county, both with an excessive rate ranging at \$18 per year for residences. This is prohibitive for one-half the homes. No connection between these two phones, so the family with the other phone may as well not have any, as far as we are concerned. Most business houses have to have both phones, and the consumer pays the bill. These rates and franchises should be curtailed."

##### MINNESOTA.

"A great stride that could be taken in relieving the monotony of farm life would be for a law to be passed where a majority of any township could levy a tax to build municipal telephones to every home in the township, this tax to be levied on all taxable property."

*A man:* "We as a community believe in having the Government get hold of the telephone and telegraph lines. At present we can not afford to have a telephone in the house because a company wants us to build them the line, give it to them, and then pay them an extravagant rate to use it. The telephone would be a great comfort for the housewife as well as for all others."



## IOWA.

"Have the Government own the telephone and telegraph lines of the country, railroads, and coal mines."

## SOUTHEASTERN QUARTER.

## VIRGINIA.

"What the farmers' wives of this section most need is getting in closer touch with each other. A great deal of this county, especially the northern part, is unconnected by phone system. Organization is what we mostly need. The department should force the county to connect a telephone system in all parts. Then we can organize. I think the only way to keep up a proper phone system is for the Government to take it in hand and force the farmers to keep in touch. This is the great principle to fight for. When this is effected, then the farmers' wives will be wonderfully aided."

## NORTH CAROLINA.

"I think that a change in the telephone system would help to some extent against loneliness; say, governmental ownership of main lines, and allow the farmers in rural districts to have branch lines at a very reasonable rate."

## KENTUCKY.

"We need some cooperative system in getting telephones."

"The telephone also is needed. When we have anything to sell we either have to go to market and risk selling, or waste one day to find out the market price and another to do the marketing, especially those who live 8 or 10 miles from town, which is a great loss to those that can not consume their produce before it spoils. If we could get the Government to furnish the telephone wire, I am most sure the farmers would furnish the posts and have phones throughout the country."

## NORTHWESTERN QUARTER.

## KANSAS.

"Give us better telephone service. Here in Kansas the farmhouses are from one-quarter to one-half mile apart and often from 1 to 2 miles to the neighbor we are most interested in, so you can readily see that a good telephone system means much, not only to the farm woman but to the farm man also. We are now supplied with several different systems. Some have no connection whatever with each other. Others connect by charging toll. Some of our neighbors have phones in one company, some in the other. These companies have no connection whatever, but we have to pay just as high rent as if we were all supplied with the same phone. It is very seldom that a farmer can have any choice in the kind of phone, but has to take the one whose line runs nearest his house. Now, if the United States could own the telephone systems, giving us general connections with neighbors, produce customers, city markets, and markets and merchants, how much more convenient and so much less expense than it is now. We are 18 miles from a city. The telephone toll is 15 cents. The prices of our farm products are regulated by the city, but we can not afford to pay the toll to inquire the price of poultry or fat stock many times before starting with a load; so we have to depend on the local buyer, who charges a big commission. The parcel post is not worth one-half as much to the farmer as it would be with a Government telephone system. I know this looks like a big proposition, but did not the rural free delivery of mails look big 20 years ago? Give us the Government telephone system, too."

## APPENDIX A.

### GENERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT BY FARM WOMEN INDIVIDUALLY OR THROUGH THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.

Specialists of the various departments have made the following suggestions which can be developed individually or as parts of a program of women's clubs or other rural organizations:

#### ORGANIZING AGRICULTURAL CLUBS FOR CHILDREN.

Women can organize the boys and girls in their rural communities into agricultural clubs, the purpose of which is to teach advanced methods of farming, animal husbandry, and home making in a practical way which yields a monetary profit to the children taking part in the work. These clubs, in addition, supply certain social features which are very desirable for the young people of country districts. They also aid children to develop the resources of the farms, to improve the quality of country life, and to become economically independent.

The girls will be interested in the canning, gardening, apple, poultry, and pig clubs; the boys will be stimulated by clubs for the raising of corn, potatoes, pigs, apples, baby beef, peanuts, or poultry, or by kaffir, milo maize, and feterita clubs.

In the boys' and girls' club work up to and including 1914 there was an enrollment of 250,000 young people. This club work is now organized in all the States, the work among girls being in charge of women county agents, and that among boys being directed by the men county agents. The work of the boys' clubs is a development of the county agent work for improving general agriculture. The women in charge of the girls' club work specialize largely in this field, although they also devote a great deal of attention to interesting women in canning and similar activities.

The influence of the training received in the boys' clubs is frequently shown in the future history of the boys as farmers. One direct result is to stimulate these club members to enter the State agricultural colleges.

Many girls, in addition to the training as efficient home makers they receive in the canning clubs, are led through this work to take a special interest in domestic science and to pursue courses in normal and industrial colleges.

The following publications of the department will be found helpful in organizing young people, and also to adults wishing to take up any of these activities:

- \*F. B. 385. Boys' and girls' agricultural clubs. Price, 5 cents.
- B. P. I. Doc. 870. Girls' demonstration work: The canning clubs.
- B. P. I. Doc. 644. Boys' demonstration work: The corn clubs.
- F. B. 562. The organization of boys' and girls' poultry clubs.
- B. P. I. Doc. 883. Tomato growing as club work in the North and West.
- F. B. 359. Canning vegetables in the home.
- F. B. 521. Canning tomatoes at home and in club work.
- F. B. 566. Boys' pig clubs.
- F. B. 537. How to grow an acre of corn. (Especially prepared for club instruction.)
- B. P. I. Doc. 803. Organization and instruction in the boys' corn-club work. General outline of the club idea with especial application to the corn clubs.
- B. P. I. Doc. 884. Potato growing as club work in the North and West.
- B. P. I. Cir. 104. Special contests in the corn-club work. General outline of the contest idea with especial application to the corn clubs.

In addition to the publications listed above, the department will supply the following circulars referring to various phases of club work and also of interest to individuals who wish to can vegetables or fruits or raise the products discussed.

Circulars issued by the Office of Farmers' Cooperative Demonstrations, Southern States, to which applications for them should be made:

- No. 474. Cultivation of tomatoes, canning, etc.
- No. 480. Outline for booklet on girls' garden and canning work.
- No. 543. Rules for starting tomato raising.
- No. 591. Instructions for raising tomatoes, beans, and okra.
- No. 592. Berry growing.

- No. 597. Boys' and girls' potato club instructions.
- No. 629. Tomato diseases.
- No. 630. Insects on tomatoes.
- No. 631. Instructions for canning.
- No. 640. Instructions for canning berries.
- No. 746. Winter gardens.
- No. 754. Fall and winter gardens.
- No. 775. Recipes for using vegetables grown in winter gardens.

Circulars issued by the Office of Demonstrations, North and West, United States Department of Agriculture, to which applications for them should be made:

- Form NR-6. General outline on the achievement club work.
- Form NR-11. Age, acreage, and basis of award requirements in corn club, potato club, and garden and canning club work.
- Form NR-17. General outline on the apple club work.
- Form N-1. List of premiums suitable for award in the garden and canning club work.
- Form N-2. What to give prizes for in the garden and canning club work.
- Form N-3. Time requirements for the canning of various food products in the different types of canning outfits.
- Form N-9. List of companies manufacturing the little portable home canning outfits.
- Form N-10. Outline on the vacation canning and marketing club.
- Form N-12. List of canning recipes.
- Form O-1. Instructions on premiums and awards in the potato club work.
- Form O-2. Instructions on what to give premiums for in the potato club work.
- Form R-1. Instructions on premiums and awards in the corn club work.
- Form R-3. Instructions on what to give premiums for in the corn club work.
- Form R-5. Instructions on the Four-H brand seed-corn label.

The department will supply additional information to, and will cooperate with, organizations interested in forming agricultural clubs for young people.

#### HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE OF LITTLE CHILDREN.

The Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., gives special attention to the home and community care of small children. The experts of this bureau will be glad to supply information so far as possible to women or organizations interested in these subjects and will help them develop child welfare exhibits. Among the publications which it will supply are:

##### HOME CARE OF THE CHILD.

- Prenatal care.
- Infant care. (Discusses the care of the child through the second year.)

##### COMMUNITY CARE.

- Description of the New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children. (Describes a method of cooperation among mothers living in rural districts, which brings to every woman information regarding the proper care of children.)
- Baby saving campaigns. (Describes methods by which some of the American cities have undertaken to reduce their infant mortality; including samples of literature in various languages used in these campaigns.)
- Birth registration as an aid in protecting the lives and rights of children.

The Public Health Service, as indicated under the head of "Health and community sanitation," and in Appendix F, also issues publications dealing with the health of children.

#### EDUCATION OF CHILDREN.

Mothers wishing to undertake the home education of their children, or individuals or women's organizations interested in improving the schools of their communities or in child welfare work, can obtain valuable publications and advice from the United States Bureau of Education. The Bureau of Education "Reading course for parents No. III" gives a selected list, especially useful to mothers, of books dealing with the care of children. This bureau also will answer questions on rural civics and school gardens. Appendices E and F give lists of many publications having direct bearing on the education of children. Appendices C and D contain lists of many valuable publications useful for those interested in educating children in agriculture, nature study, or home economics.

The American National Red Cross also is prepared to furnish women with information as to visiting nurses for schools in rural districts.

The Bureau of the Census will supply many publications dealing with questions of illiteracy.

#### STUDY OF LITERATURE.

The United States Bureau of Education is issuing a series of graded outline reading courses dealing with the masterpieces of literature. They are especially



designed for parents and for boys and girls who have left school. The courses thus far announced are Nos. 1 and 2. Course 1 consists of a study of seven important books which everyone should know. Course 2 considers these seven books and in addition a number of other titles. These courses will be furnished free on application. Those completing any of the courses will receive a certificate from the Commissioner of Education.

#### MOVABLE SCHOOLS OF AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS.

The movable school, providing for local classes of 10 or more farmers or farm women for the study of some topic of special interest to the community, has proved a very effective and acceptable method of extension teaching in agriculture or home economics. These schools usually give courses consisting of 15 to 20 lectures on the topic selected, under local leadership, but with the general supervision of experts from the State agricultural colleges. A special form of such schools has been devised by the Department of Agriculture and is now being tried experimentally in cooperation with the State agricultural colleges.

#### FARMERS' INSTITUTES FOR WOMEN.

The department, in cooperation with the State directors of farmers' institutes, encourages and aids the organization of farmers' institutes for women similar to those which have proved successful for men. There has been a marked growth in such institutes in recent years.

#### HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SANITATION.

One of the greatest services that organizations of women can render to their communities is to become intelligent guides in public health matters. They can do much effective work in making certain that the water supply is not polluted; in improving sewage disposal so that it will not become a carrier of infection; and in working intelligently for quarantines and safeguards that will prevent the spread of infectious and contagious diseases. To such women the United States Public Health Service stands ready to supply expert advice on all matters pertaining to rural sanitation and to furnish a number of publications dealing with the nature, treatment, and prevention of some of the most serious diseases. It also has available publications dealing with the rearing and care of infants, securing proper hygienic conditions in schoolhouses, and in right living as a means of efficiency. Appendix F contains a list of Public Health Service publications on these subjects of direct interest to women. See also "Medical Handbook," of Bureau of Education, Appendix E, and titles under "Hygiene and Sanitation" in Appendix C.

#### HOME AND PUBLIC SANITATION AND WATER SUPPLY.

The Department of Agriculture, in addition, has issued a number of publications dealing with hygiene, sanitation, and water supply in rural districts, many of which will be found suggestive to women wishing to discuss home or community health protection.

With the following list of bulletins on this subject should be included the publications named later under the heading "Protection of Food Supply," and also several of the titles given under the heading "Foods" in this appendix:

- \*Y. B. Sep. 619. Health laws. Price, 5 cents.
- \*B. P. I. Bul. 100. The effect of copper upon water bacteria. Price, 5 cents.
- \*B. P. I. Bul. 64. A method of destroying or preventing the growth of algae and certain pathogenic bacteria in water supplies. Price, 5 cents.
- \*B. P. I. Bul. 76. Copper as an algicide and disinfectant in water supplies. Price, 5 cents.
- \*B. P. I. Bul. 115. The disinfection of sewage effluents for the protection of public water supplies. Price, 10 cents.
- \*B. P. I. Bul. 154. Farm water supplies of Minnesota. Price, 15 cents.
- \*Chem. Bul. 156. Sewage-polluted oysters as a cause of typhoid and other gastrointestinal disturbances. Price, 10 cents.
- F. B. 547. The yellow-fever mosquito.
- \*F. B. 155. How insects affect the health in rural districts. Price, 5 cents.
- \*B. A. I. Cir. 108. Trichinosis: A danger in the use of raw pork for food. Price, 5 cents.
- F. B. 459. House flies.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

- F. B. 478. How to prevent typhoid fever.  
 F. B. 444. Remedies and preventives against mosquitoes.  
 \*F. B. 527. Sewage disposal for rural homes. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 345. Some common disinfectants.  
 F. B. 450. Some facts about malaria.  
 \*Ento. Bul. 78. Economic loss to the people of the United States through insects that carry disease. Price, 10 cents.  
 \*F. B. 549. The farm water supply. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 73. Pure water for the farm. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 262. Water for table use. Price, 5 cents.  
 Dept. Bul. 57. Water supply, plumbing, and sewage disposal for country homes.  
 \*F. B. 296. Wells and a pure water supply. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 369. How to destroy rats.  
 F. B. 439. Anthrax, with special reference to its suppression.  
 F. B. 449. Rabies or hydrophobia.  
 F. B. 450. Some facts about malaria.  
 F. B. 463. The sanitary privy.  
 F. B. 473. Tuberculosis.  
 F. B. 480. Practical methods of disinfecting stables.  
 F. B. 540. The stable fly.  
 \*Dept. Bul. 118. Experiments in the destruction of fly larvæ in horse manure. Price, 10 cents.

#### RURAL NURSING.

The American National Red Cross, Washington, D. C., through its Town and Country Nursing Service, will supply information as to the employment of nurses in rural districts for nursing, school inspection, child-welfare work, prevention of tuberculosis, sanitary inspection, and the organization of clubs and classes in hygiene for young people. It also supplies information on the organization of classes in first aid and home care of the sick for women. Its publication, "General Outline," contains suggestions for organizing a local nursing association.

#### PROTECTION OF FOOD SUPPLY.

For women who are interested in protecting the food supply of their communities, \*Y. B. Sep. 619, "Health laws" (price, 5 cents), contains general information as to the Federal statutes governing foods and drugs. This publication will make it clear that the Federal jurisdiction extends only to foods and drugs in interstate commerce. Control of foods manufactured and sold wholly within the borders of a State lies with the State and municipal authorities and is a subject for State legislation.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS.

To women interested in the provisions of the Federal Food and Drugs Act the department will supply copies of the act and the regulations based thereon. In addition the following titles will be found of interest to women studying this subject:

- Annual Reports of the Office of the Solicitor, 1908 to 1911, 1913, and 1914.  
 \*Annual Reports of the Bureau of Chemistry, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1914, free; 1911, price 5 cents.  
 \*Chem. Bul. 100. Some forms of food adulteration and simple methods for their detection. Price, 10 cents.  
 \*Y. B. Sep. 569. Decomposition and its microscopical detection in some food products. Price, 5 cents.  
 Office of Secretary Cir. 19. Standards of purity for food products.  
 Office of Secretary Cir. 21. Food and Drugs Act. Rules and regulations for the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act.  
 \*Chem. Bul. 164. Graham flour. Study of physical and chemical differences between graham flour and imitation graham flour. Price, 10 cents.  
 F. B. 393. Habit-forming agents, their indiscriminate sale and use a menace to public welfare.  
 F. B. 377. Harmfulness of headache mixtures.  
 \*Dept. Bull. 103. Alum in foods. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*Chem. Bul. 136. Oysters. Shellfish contamination from sewage-polluted waters and from other sources. Price, 10 cents.  
 \*Chem. Cir. 70. Comparative rate of decomposition in drawn and undrawn market poultry. Price, 5 cents.  
 Dept. Bul. 17. Refrigeration of dressed poultry in transit.  
 \*Y. B. Sep. 591. The handling of dressed poultry a thousand miles from market. Price, 15 cents.  
 \*Y. B. Sep. 596. How the produce dealer may improve the quality of poultry and eggs. Price, 5 cents.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

- \*Chem. Cir. 115. An all-metal poultry-cooling rack. Price, 5 cents.
- F. B. 623. Ice houses and the use of ice on the dairy farm.
- F. B. 475. Ice houses.
- \*F. B. 131. Household tests for the detection of oleomargarine and renovated butter. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Dept. Bul. 51. A bacteriological and chemical study of commercial eggs in the producing sections of the central west. (Contains colored plates for testing eggs before the candle.) Price, 40 cents.
- \*Chem. Cir. 98. The preparation of frozen and dried eggs. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Chem. Cir. 61. How to kill and bleed market poultry. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Chem. Cir. 64. Poultry from the farm to the consumer. (Deals with cold storage of poultry and eggs.) Price, 5 cents.
- \*Y. B. Sep. 552. Effect of the present method of handling eggs on the industry and the product. Price, 5 cents.

#### GUARANTY LEGEND ON FOODS AND DRUGS ABOLISHED.

Many housewives in the past have been under the impression that the legend "Guaranteed under the Food and Drugs Act" appearing on packages of food or drugs meant that the Federal Government had in some way passed upon the purity or quality of these products. This was not the case. The Government has never certified the purity or excellence of such products.

In order to prevent further misunderstanding on this score, it has been determined to abolish the guaranty legend and serial number on foods and drugs on and after May 1, 1916, except that products packed and labeled prior to May 1, 1916, may bear the legend until November 1, 1916.

This legend and serial number were intended simply to mean that the manufacturer continued to accept full responsibility for his goods after they had passed into the hands of a dealer. In other words, it was designed merely for the protection of the dealer who might happen to have in stock a manufacturer's goods which violated the act.

#### MEAT SUPPLY.

The Department of Agriculture will send information regarding Federal meat inspection and its special publications on municipal meat inspection and municipal slaughterhouses. Among the publications of the department dealing with meat are:

- \*Twenty-third Annual Report, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1906. Price, 45 cents.
- \*Twenty-fourth Annual Report, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1907. Price, 65 cents.
- \*Twenty-fifth Annual Report, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1908. Price, 70 cents.
- \*Twenty-sixth Annual Report, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1909. Price, 50 cents.
- \*Twenty-seventh Annual Report, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1910. Price, 80 cents.
- \*Twenty-eighth Annual Report, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1911. Price, 60 cents.
- B. A. I. Order 211. Regulations governing the meat inspection of the United States Department of Agriculture.
- \*B. A. I. Cir. 108. Trichinosis: A danger in the use of raw pork for food. Price, 5 cents.
- \*B. A. I. Bul. 132. A bacteriological study of ham souring. Price, 15 cents.
- B. A. I. Cir. 125. The Federal meat inspection service.
- \*B. A. I. Cir. 154. The need of State and municipal meat inspection to supplement Federal inspection. Price, 5 cents.
- B. A. I. Cir. 173. The sanitary construction and equipment of abattoirs and packing houses.
- B. A. I. Cir. 185. State and municipal meat inspection and municipal slaughterhouses.
- F. B. 183. Meat on the farm: Butchering, curing, and keeping.
- F. B. 391. Economical use of meat in the home.
- \*F. B. 435. Experiment station work. Market classes and grades of meat. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 479. Experiment station work. Preparation of choice hams. Price, 5 cents.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

To women interested in securing a safe milk supply for their communities, the following publications of the department will be of interest:

- \*B. A. I. Cir. 197. Directions for the home pasteurization of milk. Price, 5 cents.
  - F. B. 413. The care of milk and its use in the home.
  - \*Expt. Sta. Syl. 1. Illustrated lecture on the care of milk. Price, 5 cents.
  - F. B. 363. The use of milk as food.
  - F. B. 490. Bacteria in milk.
  - \*B. A. I. Cir. 199, rev. The score-card system of dairy inspection. Price, 5 cents.
  - \*B. A. I. Cir. 217. The control of bulk milk in stores. Price, 5 cents.
  - Dept. Bul. 1. Medical milk commissions and certified milk.
  - F. B. 608. Removing garlic flavor from milk and cream.
  - B. A. I. Cir. 170. The extra cost of producing clean milk.
  - F. B. 602. Production of clean milk.
  - \*Dept. Bul. 98. The application of refrigeration to the handling of milk. Price, 10 cents.
  - Dept. Bul. 85. The cost of pasteurizing milk and cream.
  - \*Y. B. Sep. 595. Condensed and desiccated milk. Price, 5 cents.
- (See Appendix C for other titles.)

\*Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.



The Bureau of Chemistry, under the Food and Drugs Act, exercises supervision over milk shipped in interstate commerce, with a view to improving the quality of milk received in this way by large cities near State borders. In cooperation with the Bureau of Animal Industry, it is working to help dairy-men improve the quality of their milk, and also is making efforts to encourage the railroads to supply refrigerator express cars for the sanitary handling of the daily milk supply of large cities.

#### ROAD IMPROVEMENT.

Clubs of rural women who wish to take part in improving the roads of their communities will find the following department publications worthy of study:

F. B. 311. Sand-clay and burnt-clay roads.

F. B. 338. Macadam roads.

F. B. 505. Benefits of improved roads.

F. B. 597. The road drag and how it is used.

\*Roads Bul. 41. Mileage and cost of public roads in the United States in 1909. Price, 10 cents.

Roads Bul. 48. Repair and maintenance of highways.

\*Roads Cir. 95. Special road problems of the Southern States. Price, 5 cents.

#### PROMOTION OF DIVERSIFIED FARMING IN THE SOUTH.

Women who individually or through their organizations wish to take steps to promote diversified agriculture in the South with a view to encouraging farmers to raise more of their own food, will find the following special circulars, which will be sent free, of practical value as a reading course on southern agriculture:

F. C. D. Cir. 746. Winter gardens.

F. C. D. Cir. 754. Fall and winter gardens.

Special Cir. Producing sheep on southern farms.

Special Cir. Suggestions on poultry raising for the southern farmer.

Special Cir. How southern farmers may get a start in pig raising.

Special Cir. Horse and mule raising in the South.

Special Cir. Winter oats in the cotton belt.

Special Cir. Winter wheat in the cotton belt.

Special Cir. Rye in the cotton belt.

Special Cir. Hairy vetch for the cotton belt.

Special Cir. Rape as a forage crop in the cotton belt. )

Special Cir. Do you keep a cow?

Special Cir. Advantages of dairying in the South.

Special Cir. Feeding the farm cow in the South.

Special Cir. The feeding of dairy calves.

Special Cir. The production and care of milk and cream.

Special Cir. Marketing butter and cream in the South.

Special Cir. Farm conveniences for handling the cow and her product.

Special Cir. Making farm butter in the South.

Special Cir. Shall southern farmers build creameries?

B. A. I. unnumbered leaflet. Progress and results of cattle-tick eradication.

B. A. I. unnumbered leaflet. Effects of tick eradication on the cattle industry of the South.

F. B. 498. Methods of exterminating the Texas-fever tick.

F. B. 569. Texas or tick fever.

F. B. 580. Beef production in the South.

F. B. 639. Eradication of the cattle tick necessary for profitable dairying.

Dept. Bul. 147. The effect of the cattle tick upon the milk production of dairy cows.

Under the heading "Organizing agricultural clubs for children" will be found titles of publications supplying valuable material for getting the younger generation interested in progressive agriculture.

#### STUDY OF BIRDS AND MAMMALS.

American birds and mammals offer a desirable study for adults and young people. If, in addition, bird houses and food shelters are erected near homes, and other means of attracting and protecting birds are employed, the study becomes a fascinating and profitable amusement. For this purpose the following Farmers' Bulletins will be found useful:

##### BIRDS.

630. Some common birds useful to the farmer.

54. Some common birds in their relation to agriculture.

456. Our grosbeaks and their value to agriculture.

497. Some common game, aquatic, and rapacious birds in relation to man.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

- 506. Food of some well-known birds of forest, farm, and garden.
- 609. Bird houses and how to build them.
- 621. How to attract birds in northeastern United States.
- 493. The English sparrow as a pest.
- \*513. Fifty common birds of farm and orchard. Price, 15 cents.

Other publications of interest to bird lovers are:

- \*Y. B. Sep. 620. American thrushes, valuable bird neighbors. Price, 10 cents.
- \*Biol. Surv. Cir. 17. Bird day in schools. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Biol. Surv. Cir. 61. Hawks and owls from the standpoint of the farmer. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Y. B. Sep. 414. Cage-bird traffic of the United States. Price, 10 cents.
- Y. B. Sep. 504. Plants useful to attract birds and protect fruit.
- \*Y. B. Sep. 474. The economic value of predacious birds and mammals. Price, 5 cents.

#### MAMMALS.

- F. B. 396. The muskrat.
- F. B. 496. Raising Belgian hares and other rabbits.
- F. B. 525. Raising guinea pigs.
- F. B. 583. The common mole of eastern United States.
- F. B. 587. Economic value of North American skunks.

#### STUDY OF INSECTS.

The study of insects, particularly those which have a direct bearing on agriculture, should form a valuable and interesting activity for club work. It offers to young people and others an opportunity to make interesting collections and to study a phase of life closely related to success in agricultural pursuits. Farmers' Bulletin 696, "Collection and preservation of insects and other material for use in the study of agriculture," will prove a helpful guide to those wishing to undertake such work. In addition the department publishes many other pamphlets dealing in detail with special insects. Questions as to specific insects will be answered by the department's specialists.

Among the publications on certain of the more common insects which usually may be obtained for study within the regions inhabited by them are the following:

- F. B. 284. Insect and fungous enemies of the grape east of the Rocky Mountains.
- F. B. 450. Some facts about malaria.
- F. B. 459. House flies.
- F. B. 492. The more important insect and fungous enemies of the fruit and foliage of the apple.
- F. B. 512. The boll weevil problem.
- F. B. 540. The stable fly.
- F. B. 543. Common white grubs.
- Dept. Bul. 5. The southern corn rootworm.
- Dept. Bul. 8. The western corn rootworm.
- \*Dept. Bul. 90. The rose aphid. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Ento. Cir. 31. The striped cucumber beetle. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Ento. Cir. 39. The common squash bug. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Ento. Cir. 60. The imported cabbage worm. Price, 5 cents.
- Ento. Cir. 80. The grasshopper problem and alfalfa culture.
- Ento. Cir. 87. The Colorado potato beetle.
- Ento. Cir. 123. Methods of controlling tobacco insects.
- Ento. Cir. 124. The San Jose scale and its control.

#### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND NATURE STUDY.

For clubs or individuals who wish to study seeds, leaves, plants, woods, etc., the following publications are practical and helpful:

- F. B. 428. Testing farm seeds in the home and in the rural school.
- F. B. 586. Collection and preservation of plant material for use in the study of agriculture.
- \*F. B. 423. Forest nurseries for schools. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 468. Forestry in nature study. Price, 5 cents.
- \*For. Serv. Cir. 130. Forestry in public schools. Price, 5 cents.
- \*For. Serv. Cir. 96. Arbor Day. Price, 5 cents.
- Dept. Bul. 132. Correlating agriculture with the public school subjects in the Southern States.
- F. B. 638. Laboratory exercises in farm mechanics for agricultural high schools.

#### STUDY OF PLANTS AND TREES.

For clubs or individuals who wish to study seeds, leaves, plants, woods, etc., the following publications are practical and helpful:

- F. B. 428. Testing farm seeds in the home and in the rural school.
- F. B. 586. Collection and preservation of plant material for use in the study of agriculture.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

## MEDICINAL AND POISONOUS PLANTS.

- F. B. 188. Weeds used in medicine.  
 F. B. 531. Larkspur or "Poison-weed."  
 F. B. 551. The cultivation of American ginseng.  
 F. B. 613. Goldenseal under cultivation.  
 \*Dept. Bul. 26. American medicinal flowers, fruits, and seeds. Price, 5 cents.

## ELEMENTARY FORESTRY.

- F. B. 173. A primer of forestry, Part I.  
 F. B. 358. A primer of forestry, Part II.  
 \*F. B. 468. Forestry in nature study. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 134. Tree planting on rural school grounds.  
 \*F. B. 423. Forest nurseries for schools. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 387. The preservative treatment of farm timbers. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 96. Arbor Day. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 130. Forestry in the public schools. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 138. Suggestions to woodlot owners in the Ohio Valley region. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 171. Forests of the United States, their use. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 176. Surface conditions and stream flow. Price, 5 cents.  
 For. Serv. Cir. 207. Profession of forestry.  
 \*For. Serv. Bul. 42. The woodlot. Price, 15 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Bul. 82. Protection of forests from fire. Price, 15 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Bul. 83. Forest resources of the world. Price, 10 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Bul. 86. Windbreaks, their influence and value. Price, 30 cents.  
 Y. B. Sep. 622. Practical tree surgery.

## GARDENING.

For those wishing to grow plants, flowers, and shrubs, or to help children in these directions, the following publications will be found useful:

- F. B. 157. The propagation of plants.  
 F. B. 185. Beautifying the home grounds.  
 F. B. 195. Annual flowering plants.  
 F. B. 218. The school garden.  
 F. B. 494. Lawns and lawn soils.  
 \*F. B. 423. Forest nurseries for schools. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. C. D. Cir. 746. Winter gardens.  
 \*B. P. I. Cir. 69. Ornamental value of the saltbushes. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*B. P. I. Cir. 101. The germination of packeted vegetable seeds. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*B. P. I. Bul. 262. Ornamental cacti: Their culture and decorative value. Price, 15 cents.

## BEES.

Beekeeping, which will provide the family with honey and possibly give a surplus for sale to neighbors, offers a pleasant occupation to women and young people. Farmers' Bulletin 447, "Bees," contains valuable information on this subject, and the department's specialists also are glad to answer questions and to give advice to those interested in an apiary. Farmers' Bulletin 442, "The treatment of bee diseases," gives directions for the control of the very prevalent bee diseases, and Farmers' Bulletin 503, "Comb honey," describes, more especially for the professional beekeepers, the best methods for the production of comb honey.

## POULTRY.

Women frequently find pleasure and a source of profit in giving attention to high-class poultry and eggs. The following publications should be useful:

- F. B. 197. Importation of game birds and eggs for propagation.  
 F. B. 445. Marketing eggs through the creamery.  
 F. B. 585. Natural and artificial incubation of hens' eggs.  
 F. B. 594. Shipping eggs by parcel post.  
 F. B. 51. Standard varieties of chickens.  
 F. B. 64. Ducks and geese.  
 F. B. 200. Turkeys.  
 F. B. 287. Poultry management.  
 F. B. 355. A successful poultry and dairy farm.  
 F. B. 432. Capons and caponizing.  
 F. B. 528. Hints to poultry raisers.  
 F. B. 530. Important poultry diseases.  
 F. B. 574. Poultry-house construction.  
 F. B. 624. Natural and artificial brooding of chickens.



- F. B. 390. Pheasant raising in the United States.  
 \*Dept. Bul. 51. A bacteriological and chemical study of commercial eggs in the producing sections of the Central West. (Contains colored plates for testing eggs before a candle.) Price, 40 cents.

## DRESSED POULTRY.

- \*Y. B. Sep. 591. The handling of dressed poultry a thousand miles from market. Price, 15 cents.  
 Dept. Bul. 17. Refrigeration of dressed poultry in transit.  
 \*Chem. Cir. 115. An all-metal poultry-cooling rack. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*Chem. Cir. 61. How to kill and bleed market poultry. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*Chem. Cir. 64. Studies of poultry from farm to consumer. Price, 5 cents.

See also "Protection of food supply."

## SMALL FRUITS.

The raising, preserving, and canning of small fruits supplies a pleasant and frequently profitable occupation for women. The following publications will be helpful:

- F. B. 198. Strawberries.  
 F. B. 213. Raspberries.  
 F. B. 154. The home fruit garden: Preparation and care.  
 F. B. 175. Home manufacture and use of unfermented grape juice.  
 F. B. 203. Canned fruits, preserves, and jellies.  
 F. B. 426. Canning peaches on the farm.

See also list of publications under "Organizing agricultural clubs for children," in this appendix, for literature on canning and preserving.

## FOODS AND COOKING.

Women's organizations might with profit emphasize the importance of healthful and well-prepared food and the supplying of the farm table with the greatest variety possible, served in the greatest number of attractive forms. The following publications will prove of interest:

- F. B. 34. Meats: Composition and cooking.  
 F. B. 85. Fish as food.  
 F. B. 121. Beans, peas, and other legumes as food.  
 F. B. 128. Eggs and their uses as food.  
 F. B. 182. Poultry as food.  
 F. B. 232. Okra.  
 F. B. 249. Cereal breakfast foods.  
 F. B. 256. Preparation of vegetables for the table.  
 F. B. 293. Use of fruit as food.  
 F. B. 295. Potatoes and other root crops as food.  
 F. B. 298. Food value of corn and corn products.  
 F. B. 332. Nuts and their uses as food.  
 F. B. 363. The use of milk as food.  
 F. B. 375. Care of food in the home.  
 F. B. 389. Bread and bread making.  
 F. B. 391. Economical use of meat in the home.  
 F. B. 413. The care of milk and its use in the home.  
 F. B. 608. Removing garlic flavor from milk and cream.  
 F. B. 503. Comb honey.  
 F. B. 291. Evaporation of apples.  
 F. B. 487. Cheese and its economical use in the diet.  
 F. B. 526. Mutton and its value as food.  
 F. B. 553. Pop corn for the home.  
 F. B. 559. Use of corn, kafir, and cowpeas in the home.  
 F. B. 565. Corn meal as a food and ways of using it.  
 F. B. 142. Principles of nutrition and nutritive value of food.  
 F. B. 234. The guinea fowl and its uses as food.  
 F. B. 535. Sugar and its value as food.  
 F. B. 602. Production of clean milk.  
 \*F. B. 69. Restoring the consistency of pasteurized cream (whipping cream). Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 73. Losses in cooking vegetables. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 79. Mushrooms as food. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 114. Skim milk in bread making. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 149. The digestibility of raw, pasteurized, and cooked milk. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 162. Cooking meat. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 193. Cooking meat. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 281. Storing preserves, canned fruits, and canned vegetables. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 329. Cane sugar and beet sugar for canning and jelly making. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 360. Hulled corn. Price, 5 cents.

\*Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

- \*F. B. 360. Methods of mixing fat into dough. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 374. Flour for making baking-powder biscuits. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 384. Whipped cream. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 419. Sweet potatoes and their preparation for the table. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 517. Uses of the sweet potato. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 193. Studies of the effect of different methods of cooking upon the thoroughness and easy digestion of meat at the University of Illinois. Price, 15 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 28. Chemical composition of American food materials. Price, 10 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 43. Losses in boiling vegetables and composition and digestibility of potatoes and eggs. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 85. Report of the investigations on the digestibility and nutritive value of bread. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 102. Experiments on losses in cooking meat. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 126. Studies on the digestibility and nutritive value of bread at the University of Minnesota. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 141. Experiments on losses in cooking meat. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 143. Studies on the digestibility and nutritive value of bread at Maine Agricultural Experiment Station. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 156. Studies on the digestibility and nutritive value of bread and macaroni at the University of Minnesota. Price, 15 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Bul. 162. Studies of the influence of cooking upon the nutritive value of meat. Price, 20 cents.
- \*Dept. Bul. 27. Bouillon cubes, their contents and food value compared with meat extracts and homemade preparations of meat. Price, 5 cents.
- Y. B. Sep. No. 623. Supplementing our meat supply with fish.
- \*Chem. Bul. 77. Olive oil and its substitutes. Price, 10 cents.
- F. C. D. Cir. 776. Fireless cooker and recipes.
- \*F. B. 296. The hay box, or fireless cooker. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Expt. Sta. Syllabus 15. Illustrated lecture on the homemade fireless cooker. Price, 5 cents.

#### CANNING AND PRESERVING.

- \*F. B. 73. The cause and prevention of swells in canned goods. Price, 5 cents.
- F. B. 78. The preservation of grape juice and sweet cider.
- \*F. B. 119. Fresh and canned tomatoes. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 122. Preparation of unfermented grape juice. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 169. A method of preserving sweet potatoes. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 210. Canning cheese. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 225. Prevention of swelling in canned peas. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 259. Use of a cheap canning outfit. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 262. Improved method of canning. Price, 5 cents.
- F. B. 281. Storing preserves, canned fruits, and canned vegetables.
- \*F. B. 296. Pickling olives and mock olives for home use. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 329. Cane sugar and beet sugar for canning and jelly making. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 342. Preserving wild mushrooms. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 388. Jelly and jelly making. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 342. Fig culture in the South (includes methods of canning and preserving). Price, 5 cents.
- F. B. 359. Canning vegetables in the home.
- \*Chem. Bul. 70. Manufacture of table syrups from sugar cane. Price, 10 cents.
- F. B. 477. Sorghum sirup manufacture.
- \*Chem. Bul. 129. Experiments in cider making applicable to farm conditions. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Chem. Bul. 134. Maple-sap sirup, its manufacture, composition, and effect of environment thereon. Price, 25 cents.
- F. B. 516. The production of maple sirup and sugar.
- \*Chem. Cir. 51. Value of peaches as vinegar stock. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Chem. Cir. 57. Experiments on preparation of sugared dried pineapples. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Chem. Cir. 98. Practical suggestions for preparation of frozen and dried eggs. Statement based on investigation made in producing section during the summer of 1911. Price, 5 cents.
- F. B. 183. Meat on the farm: Butchering, curing, and keeping.
- \*F. B. 296. Preserving eggs in water glass. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 353. Preservation of eggs. Price, 5 cents.
- \*F. B. 353. A cheap and efficient ice box. Price, 5 cents.

See also "Organization of agricultural clubs" and "Small fruits" for other bulletins on canning.

#### HOUSEHOLD PUBLICATIONS OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

- U. S. Bu. Fish. Econ. Cir. 11. Canned salmon cheaper than meats and why. (50 tested recipes.)
- \*Department of the Interior bulletin. Lessons in cooking for the sick and convalescent. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Outline lessons in housekeeping, including cooking, laundering, dairying, and nursing, for use in Indian schools. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Some things that girls should know how to do and hence should learn how to do when in school. Price, 5 cents.
- \*Daily meals of school children. (U. S. Bureau of Education Bulletin, 1909, No. 3.) Description of typical inexpensive lunches, methods of using food, food values, etc. Price, 10 cents.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

These suggestions as to activities or lines of study for individuals and women's organizations by no means exhaust the fields in which the various departments of the Government stand ready to cooperate with people who are interested in obtaining knowledge or practical results in definite fields. Comparatively few people realize the willingness of the Government or its capacity to help them in varied lines of endeavor. The Government's publications, most of which are free or to be obtained for a nominal price, number many thousands of titles and a great variety of subjects. Those in doubt as to whether the Government can supply them with information on any particular topic should address a post card to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., asking him for lists of Government publications. These lists, which will be sent free, are an index to a vast collection of valuable information readily accessible to the people. (See Appendix D.)

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## APPENDIX B.

### HOW FARM WOMEN MAY GET HELP UNDER THE SMITH-LEVER EXTENSION ACT.

The funds appropriated under the extension act of May 8, 1914 (the Smith-Lever Act), are given to the State agricultural colleges to enable them to employ men and women as county agents and experts who will move about among the farming people, demonstrate good methods of agriculture and home economics, cooperate with them in studying their farm and home problems, and assist them in the adoption of better methods on their farms or in their homes. The department has entered into cooperative agreements with the colleges by which its own funds for extension work are used to supplement the Smith-Lever and State funds for similar purposes and are expended through the extension divisions of the colleges.

Already many of the colleges have appointed women as extension experts in home economics, and others are planning to do so. In nearly all the Southern States women county agents are already at work in connection with the demonstration work carried on by the agricultural colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture.

These agents will enroll women in home demonstration work and will continue to conduct girls' clubs. They will have the women demonstrate the preparation and use of products from canning clubs, poultry clubs, pig clubs, and the winter garden. Accompanying the use of the club products, the women on the farms will be shown how to make or secure labor-saving devices and conveniences. They will also be encouraged by the county agents to find and extend to others the best methods of work and conveniences already discovered and in use in their communities.

Instruction will be furnished by means of demonstrations, visits from the county agent, circulars, letters, and bulletins from the State agricultural colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture.

In the Northern and Western States the principal work has thus far been done by home economics experts connected with the agricultural colleges, but a beginning of the canning club work for girls has been made. The number of home economics experts who are doing work among the farm women is being rapidly increased. It is hoped that before long there will be women agents in every county in the United States.

To avail themselves of the aid offered by the extension organizations in the several States the farm women should, if possible, form local clubs and then communicate with the county agent, whether man or woman, or with the State agricultural college. In this way the club will often be able to secure a visit from the county agent or from a home economics expert from the college. If it is not feasible to form a club immediately, the women should write individually to the college or the county agent. The following is a list of the State extension directors:



## ADDRESS LIST OF STATE INSTITUTIONS AND OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK UNDER THE SMITH-LEVER ACT.

Institution.	Address.	Officer.
Alabama Polytechnic Inst.....	Auburn, Ala.....	J. F. Duggar, Dir. of Ext. Work.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Ariz.....	Tucson, Ariz.....	S. F. Morse, Supt. of Ext.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Ark.....	Fayetteville, Ark.....	Martin Nelson, Dir. Ext. Work.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Cal.....	Berkeley, Cal.....	Warren T. Clarke, Prof. Agr. Ext.
State Agr. College of Colo.....	Fort Collins, Colo.....	C. A. Lory, Act. Dir. Ext. Service.
Connecticut Agr. College.....	Storrs, Conn.....	C. D. Jarvis, Dir. Ext. Service.
Delaware College.....	Newark, Del.....	H. Hayward, Dir. Ext. Service.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Fla.....	Gainesville, Fla.....	P. H. Rolfs, Dir. Ext. Div.
Georgia State Col. of Agr.....	Athens, Ga.....	A. M. Soule, Dir. Ext. Dept.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Idaho.....	Boise, Idaho.....	O. D. Center, Dir. Ext. Work.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Ill.....	Urbana, Ill.....	W. F. Handschin, Vice Dir. Agr. Ext. Service.
Purdue University.....	La Fayette, Ind.....	G. I. Christie, Supt. Agr. Ext.
Iowa State College.....	Ames, Iowa.....	R. K. Bliss, Dir. Ext.
Kansas State Agr. College.....	Manhattan, Kans.....	J. H. Miller, Dean, Div. Col. Ext.
Col. of Agr., State Univ.....	Lexington, Ky.....	Fred Mutchler, Supt. Agr. Ext.
La. State Univ. and A. and M. Col.....	Baton Rouge, La.....	W. R. Dodson, Dir. Agr. Ext.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Maine.....	Orono, Me.....	L. S. Merrill, Dir. Agr. Ext.
Maryland Agr. College.....	College Park, Md.....	Thos. B. Symons, Dir. of Ext.
Massachusetts Agr. College.....	Amherst, Mass.....	W. D. Hurd, Dir. of Ext. Service.
Michigan Agr. College.....	East Lansing, Mich.....	R. J. Baldwin, Supt. of Ext.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Minn.....	University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.....	A. D. Wilson, Dir. Ext. and F. I.
Miss. Agr. and Mech. College.....	Agr. College, Miss.....	A. J. Meyer, Sec'y of Agr. Ext.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Missouri.....	Columbia, Mo.....	F. S. Cooley, Dir. Ext. Service.
Montana State College.....	Bozeman, Mont.....	C. W. Pugsley, Dir. Agr. Ext. Service.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Nebr.....	Lincoln, Nebr.....	C. S. Knight, Dir. Agr. Ext.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Nev.....	Reno, Nev.....	J. C. Kendall, Dir. Ext. Work.
N. H. Col. of A. and M. Arts.....	Durham, N. H.....	Alva Agee, Dir. Div. of Ext.
Rutgers Scientific School.....	New Brunswick, N. J.....	A. C. Cooley, Dir. Ext. Work.
N. Mex. Col. of A. and M. Arts.....	State College, N. Mex.....	B. T. Galloway, Dir. Div. of Ext.
N. Y. State College of Agr.....	Ithaca, N. Y.....	B. W. Kilgore, Dir. Ext. Service.
N. C. Col. of A. and M. Arts.....	West Raleigh, N. C.....	T. P. Cooper, Dir. Ext. Work.
N. Dak. Agr. College.....	Agr. College, N. Dak.....	H. C. Price, Dir. Agr. Ext. Work.
Col. of Agr., Ohio State Univ.....	Columbus, Ohio.....	W. D. Bentley, Dir. of Ext.
Okl. Agr. and Mech. College.....	Stillwater, Okla.....	R. D. Hezdel, Dir. Ext. Work.
Oregon State Agr. College.....	Corvallis, Oreg.....	M. S. McDowell, Dir. Agr. Ext. Work.
Pennsylvania State College.....	State College, Pa.....	A. E. Stene, Dir. Ext. Service.
R. I. State College.....	Kington, R. I.....	W. W. Long, Dir. of Ext.
Clemson Agr. College of S. C.....	Clemson College, S. C.....	C. A. Keffner, Dir. Div. of Ext.
S. Dak. State College.....	Brookings, S. Dak.....	Clarence Ousley, Dir. Ext. Service.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Tenn.....	Knoxville, Tenn.....	E. G. Peterson, Dir. Agr. Ext. Div.
A. and M. College of Texas.....	College Sta., Texas.....	Thos. Bradlee, Dir. Ext. Service.
Agr. College of Utah.....	Logan, Utah.....	J. D. Eggleston, Act. Dir. Ext. Work.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Vermont.....	Burlington, Vt.....	J. A. Torney, Dir. Ext. Div.
Virginia Polytechnic Inst.....	Blacksburg, Va.....	C. R. Titlow, Dir. Agr. Ext.
State College of Washington.....	Pullman, Wash.....	K. L. Hatch, Asst. Dir. Agr. Ext. Service.
Col. of Agr., W. Va. Univ.....	Morgantown, W. Va.....	A. E. Bowman, Dir. Ext. Work.
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Wis.....	Madison, Wis.....	
Col. of Agr., Univ. of Wyo.....	Laramie, Wyo.....	

## APPENDIX C.

## LIST OF FREE OR AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF INTEREST TO FARM WOMEN.

Application for publications in this list should be made to the Editor and Chief of the Division of Publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.<sup>1</sup> Because of the limited supply, applicants are urgently requested to ask only for those publications in which they are particularly interested. The department can not undertake to supply complete sets, nor is it allowable to send more than one copy of each publication to an applicant. In applying for these publications the name of the series and the title and number of the bulletin or circular should be given.

## AGRICULTURAL CLUBS.

(See "Organizing agricultural clubs for children," Appendix A.)

B. P. I. Doc. 644 rev. Boys' demonstration work. The corn club.

F. B. 566. Boys' pig clubs, with special reference to their organization in the South.

<sup>1</sup> Price lists of Government publications for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., are shown in Appendix D.

- B. P. I. Doc. 870 rev. Girls' demonstration work. The canning clubs.  
 B. P. I. Doc. 803. Organization and instruction in boys' corn-club work.  
 F. B. 562. Organization of boys' and girls' poultry clubs.  
 B. P. I. Doc. 884. Potato growing as club work in the North and West.  
 B. P. I. Doc. 883. Tomato growing as club work in the North and West.

### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND NATURE STUDY.

(See "Study of plants and trees" and "Gardening," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 218. The school garden.  
 F. B. 428. Testing farm seeds in the home and in the rural school.  
 F. B. 586. Collection and preservation of plant material for use in the study of agriculture.  
 F. B. 606. Collection and preservation of insects and other material for use in the study of agriculture.  
 F. B. 617. School lessons on corn.  
 F. B. 396. The muskrat.  
 F. B. 496. Raising Belgian hares and other rabbits.  
 F. B. 525. Raising guinea pigs.  
 F. B. 583. The common mole of the eastern United States.  
 F. B. 587. Economic value of North American skunks.  
 F. B. 638. Laboratory exercises in farm mechanics for agricultural high schools.  
 Dept. Bul. 132. Correlating agriculture with the public school subjects in the Southern States.

### ELEMENTARY FORESTRY.

- F. B. 173. A primer of forestry. Part I: The Forest.  
 F. B. 358. A primer of forestry. Part II: Practical Forestry.  
 \*F. B. 468. Forestry in nature study. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 134. Tree planting on rural school grounds.  
 \*F. B. 423. Forest nurseries for schools. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 228. Forest planting and farm management. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 387. The preservative treatment of farm timbers. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 130. Forestry in public schools. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*For. Serv. Cir. 96. Arbor Day. Price, 5 cents.

### BEES.

- F. B. 447. Bees.  
 F. B. 503. Comb honey.  
 \*F. B. 334. Extraction of beeswax. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 442. The treatment of bee diseases.

### BIRDS.

(See "Study of birds and mammals," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 493. The English sparrow as a pest.  
 F. B. 506. Food of some well-known birds of forest, farm, and garden.  
 F. B. 54. Some common birds in their relation to agriculture.  
 F. B. 456. Our grosbeaks and their value to agriculture.  
 F. B. 497. Some common game, aquatic, and rapacious birds in relation to man.  
 Y. B. Sep. 504. Plants useful to attract birds and protect fruit.  
 F. B. 390. Pheasant raising in the United States.  
 F. B. 609. Bird houses and how to build them.  
 F. B. 621. How to attract birds in northeastern United States.  
 F. B. 630. Some common birds useful to the farmer.

### DAIRYING.

(See "Protection of food supply," Appendix A.)

- \*R. A. I. Cir. 218. Legal standards for dairy products. Price, 5 cents.  
 Y. B. Sep. 606. Dairying and its relation to agriculture in semiarid sections.)  
 F. B. 106. Breeds of dairy cattle.  
 F. B. 355. A successful poultry and dairy farm.  
 F. B. 55. The dairy herd.  
 F. B. 349. The dairy industry in the South.  
 F. B. 623. Ice houses and the use of ice on the dairy farm.  
 F. B. 490. Bacteria in milk.  
 F. B. 541. Farm butter making.  
 F. B. 166. Cheese making on the farm.  
 F. B. 504. Losses due to low-grade cream.  
 F. B. 413. The care of milk and its use in the home.  
 F. B. 608. Removing garlic flavor from milk and cream.  
 F. B. 602. Production of clean milk.

### DOMESTICATION OF WILD ANIMALS.

- F. B. 328. Silver fox farming.  
 F. B. 390. Pheasant raising in the United States.  
 F. B. 396. The muskrat.  
 F. B. 496. Raising Belgian hares and other rabbits.  
 F. B. 525. Raising guinea pigs.  
 F. B. 587. Economic value of North American skunks.

**DRUGS.**

(See "Protection of food supply." Appendix A.)

F. B. 377. Harmfulness of headache mixtures.

F. B. 393. Habit-forming agents: Their indiscriminate sale and use a menace to the public welfare.

**FARM BUILDINGS.**

F. B. 574. Poultry-house construction.

F. B. 438. Hog houses.

F. B. 589. Homemade silos.

F. B. 609. Bird houses and how to build them.

F. B. 475. Ice houses.

F. B. 623. Ice houses and the use of ice on the dairy farm.

F. B. 461. The use of concrete on the farm.

**FARM CONVENIENCES.**

F. B. 270. Modern conveniences for the farm home.

Dept. Bul. 57. Water supply, plumbing, and sewage disposal for country homes.

F. B. 607. The farm kitchen as a workshop.

**FARMERS' INSTITUTES.**

Expt. Sta. Cir. 85. Farmers' institutes for women.

**FARM MANAGEMENT.**

\*B. P. I. Cir. 75. Agricultural survey of four townships in southern New Hampshire. Price, 5 cents.

B. P. I. Cir. 128a. Miscellaneous papers: Some profitable and unprofitable farms in New Hampshire.

B. P. I. Cir. 132a. Miscellaneous papers: The farmer's income.

\*Y. B. Sep. 567. Seasonal distribution of labor on the farm. Price, 5 cents.

Y. B. Sep. 617. Factors of efficiency in farming.

Dept. Bul. 32. An example of successful farm management in southern New York.

Dept. Bul. 41. A farm management survey of three representative areas of Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa.

Dept. Bul. 117. Profits in farming on irrigated areas in Utah Lake Valley.

\*B. P. I. Bul. 236. Farm management: Organization of research and teaching. Price, 20 cents.

B. P. I. Bul. 259. What is farm management?

**FARM BOOKKEEPING.**

F. B. 511. Farm bookkeeping.

F. B. 572. A system of farm cost accounting.

F. B. 593. How to use farm credit.

F. B. 635. What the farm contributes directly to the farmer's living.

F. B. 364. A profitable cotton farm. (South Carolina.)

F. E. 432. How a city family managed a farm. (Virginia.)

F. B. 437. A system of tenant farming and its results. (Eastern Maryland.)

F. B. 454. A successful New York farm.

F. B. 472. Systems of farming in central New Jersey.

F. B. 519. An example of intensive farming in the cotton belt. (Alabama.)

F. B. 614. A corn-belt farming system which saves labor by hogging down crops.

\*Dept. Bul. 3. A normal day's work for various farm operations. Price, 10 cents.

\*Dept. Bul. 29. Crew work, costs, and returns in commercial orcharding in West Virginia. Price, 5 cents.

\*Dept. Bul. 130. Operating costs of a well-established New York apple orchard. Price, 5 cents.

**MODEL FARMS.**

(The States in which these are located are indicated.)

F. B. 242. An example of model farming. (Pennsylvania.)

F. B. 272. A successful hog and seed-corn farm. (Illinois.)

\*F. B. 280. A profitable tenant dairy farm. (Michigan.) Price, 5 cents.

\*F. B. 299. Diversified farming under the plantation system. (Louisiana.) Price, 5 cents.

F. B. 310. A successful Alabama diversification farm.

F. B. 312. A successful southern hay farm. (South Carolina.)

F. B. 325. Small farms in the corn belt. (Nebraska.)

F. B. 326. Building up a run-down cotton plantation. (Arkansas.)

F. B. 355. A successful poultry and dairy farm. (Washington.)

**FLORICULTURE.**

(See "Gardening," Appendix A.)

F. B. 195. Annual flowering plants.



## FOODS AND THEIR PREPARATION.

(See "Foods and cooking" and "Protection of food supply," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 375. Care of food in the home.  
 F. B. 291. Evaporation of apples.  
 F. B. 389. Bread and bread making.  
 F. B. 203. Canned fruits, preserves, and jellies: Household methods of preparation.  
 F. B. 426. Canning peaches on the farm.  
 F. B. 521. Canning tomatoes at home and in club work: I. Canned tomatoes, catsup, chowchow, etc. II. Canning tomatoes in clubs and for market.  
 F. B. 359. Canning vegetables in the home.  
 F. B. 249. Cereal breakfast foods.  
 F. B. 487. Cheese and its economical uses in the diet.  
 F. B. 298. Food value of corn and corn products.  
 F. B. 559. Use of corn, kafir, and cowpeas in the home.  
 F. B. 565. Corn meal as a food product and ways of using it.  
 F. B. 128, rev. Eggs and their uses as food.  
 Y. B. Sep. 596. How the produce dealer may improve the quality of poultry and eggs.  
 F. B. 85, rev. Fish as food.  
 F. B. 293. Use of fruit as food.  
 F. B. 175. Home manufacture and use of unfermented grape juice.  
 \*Chem. Bul. 118. Unfermented apple juice. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 121, rev. Beans, peas, and other legumes as foods.  
 \*F. B. 169. The food value of beans. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 391. Economical use of meat in the home.  
 F. B. 183, rev. Meat on the farm: Butchering, curing, and keeping.  
 F. B. 34. Meats: Composition and cooking.  
 F. B. 526. Mutton and its value in the diet.  
 F. B. 396. The muskrat.  
 \*F. B. 435. Experiment Station work. Market classes and grades of meat. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*F. B. 479. Experiment Station work. Preparation of choice hams. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 496. Raising Belgian hares and other rabbits.  
 F. B. 363. The use of milk as food.  
 F. B. 413. The care of milk and its use in the home.  
 F. B. 332. Nuts and their uses as food.  
 B. P. 1. Cir. 98. Peanut butter.  
 F. B. 431. The peanut.  
 F. B. 553. Pop corn for the home.  
 F. B. 295. Potatoes and other root crops as food.  
 F. B. 407. The potato as a truck crop.  
 F. B. 182. Poultry as food.  
 F. B. 390. Pheasant raising in the United States.  
 F. B. 493. The English sparrow.  
 F. B. 535. Sugar and its value as food.  
 F. B. 516. The production of maple sugar and sirup.  
 F. B. 324. Sweet potatoes.  
 F. B. 548. Storing and marketing sweet potatoes.  
 F. B. 256. Preparation of vegetables for the table.

## FRUIT CULTURE.

- F. B. 154. The home fruit garden: Preparation and care.  
 F. B. 113. The apple and how to grow it.  
 F. B. 491. The profitable management of the small apple orchard on the farm.  
 F. B. 631. Growing peaches: Sites, planting, tillage, etc.  
 F. B. 632. Growing peaches: Pruning, thinning, etc.  
 F. B. 633. Growing peaches: Varieties and classification.  
 F. B. 482. The pear and how to grow it.  
 F. B. 471. Grape propagation, pruning, and training.  
 F. B. 538. Sites, soils, and varieties for citrus groves in the Gulf States.  
 F. B. 539. Propagation of citrus trees in the Gulf States.  
 F. B. 542. Culture, fertilization, and frost protection of citrus groves in the Gulf States.  
 F. B. 213. Raspberries.  
 F. B. 307. Roselle: Its culture and uses.  
 F. B. 198. Strawberries.

## FUR FARMING.

- F. B. 328. Silver fox farming.  
 F. B. 396. The muskrat.  
 F. B. 557. Economic value of North American skunks.

## GUINEA PIGS.

- F. B. 525. Raising guinea pigs.

## HOME GROUNDS.

- F. B. 185. Beautifying the home grounds.  
 F. B. 494. Lawns and lawn soils.  
 F. B. 609. Bird houses and how to build them.  
 F. B. 621. How to attract birds in northeastern United States.  
 Y. B. Sep. 504. Plants useful to attract birds and protect fruit.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

**HOUSEHOLD INSECTS.**

(See "Study of insects," Appendix A.)

- Ento. Cir. 34, rev. House ants.  
 Ento. Cir. 47, rev. The bedbug.  
 F. B. 626. The carpet beetle or "Buffalo moth."  
 F. B. 627. The house centipede.  
 Ento. Cir. 77. Harvest mites or "chiggers."  
 \*Ento. Cir. 51, rev. Cockroaches. Price, 5 cents.  
 Ento. Cir. 108. House fleas.  
 F. B. 459. House flies.  
 F. B. 444. Remedies and preventives against mosquitoes.  
 F. B. 450. Some facts about malaria.  
 F. B. 547. The yellow fever mosquito.  
 Ento. Cir. 36, rev. The true clothes moths.  
 Ento. Cir. 49. The silverfish.  
 Ento. Cir. 50, rev. The white ant.

**HYGIENE AND SANITATION.**

(See "Health and community sanitation," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 478. How to prevent typhoid fever.  
 F. B. 463. The sanitary privy.  
 F. B. 345. Some common disinfectants.  
 F. B. 450. Some facts about malaria.  
 F. B. 369. How to destroy rats.

**ICE.**

- F. B. 475. Ice houses.  
 F. B. 623. Ice houses and the use of ice on the dairy farm.

**INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOL.**

- F. B. 269. Industrial alcohol: Uses and statistics.  
 F. B. 429. Industrial alcohol: Sources and manufacture.

**PAINT AND WHITEWASHES.**

- F. B. 474. The use of paint on the farm.

**PESTS (OTHER THAN INSECT).**

- F. B. 369. How to destroy rats.  
 F. B. 493. The English sparrow as a pest.  
 F. B. 583. The common mole of the eastern United States.  
 F. B. 396. The muskrat.  
 Y. B. Sep. 571. Crawfish as crop destroyers.

**POULTRY.**

(See "Poultry," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 562. Organization of boys' and girls' poultry clubs.  
 F. B. 528. Hints to poultry raisers.  
 F. B. 287. Poultry management.  
 F. B. 51. Standard varieties of chickens.  
 F. B. 594. Shipping eggs by parcel post.  
 \*Ento. Cir. 92. Mites and lice on poultry. Price, 5 cents.  
 \*Ento. Cir. 170. The fowl-tick. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 530. Important poultry diseases.  
 F. B. 64. Ducks and geese: Standard breeds and management.  
 F. B. 234. The guinea fowl and its use as food.  
 F. B. 585. Natural and artificial incubation of hen's eggs.  
 F. B. 624. Natural and artificial brooding of chickens.  
 \*Y. B. Sep. 591. Handling of dressed poultry a thousand miles from market. Price, 15 cents.  
 \*Y. B. Sep. 596. How the produce dealer may improve the quality of poultry and eggs. Price, 5 cents.  
 F. B. 445. Marketing eggs through the creamery.  
 F. B. 594. Shipping eggs by parcel post.  
 F. B. 390. Pheasant raising in the United States.  
 F. B. 200. Turkeys: Standard varieties and management.

**RABBITS.**

- F. B. 496. Raising Belgian hares and other rabbits.

**RATS.**

- F. B. 369. How to destroy rats.

**ROADS.**

(See "Road improvement," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 505. Benefits of improved roads.
- F. B. 597. The road drag and how it is used.
- F. B. 338. Macadam roads.
- F. B. 311. Sand-clay and burnt-clay roads.

**SCHOOL GARDENS.**

(See "Gardening," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 218. The school garden.
- \*F. B. 423. Forest nurseries for schools. Price, 5 cents.

**TREES.**

(See "Study of plants and trees," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 134. Tree planting on rural school grounds.

**VEGETABLE CULTURE.**

(See "Gardening," Appendix A.)

- F. B. 255. The home vegetable garden.
- F. B. 61. Asparagus culture.
- F. B. 289. Beans.
- F. B. 433. Cabbage.
- F. B. 282. Celery.
- F. B. 254. Cucumbers.
- F. B. 204. The cultivation of mushrooms.
- F. B. 232. Okra: Its culture and uses.
- F. B. 354. Onion culture.
- F. B. 220. Tomatoes.

**MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS.****BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY BULLETINS.**

- \*No. 116. The tuna as food for man. Price, 25 cents.
- \*No. 124. The prickly pear as a farm crop. Price, 10 cents.
- \*No. 140. The "spineless" prickly pears. Price, 10 cents.
- \*No. 165. Application of some of the principles of heredity to plant breeding. Price, 10 cents.

**BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY CIRCULARS.**

- \*No. 117. Miscellaneous papers: Relation of agricultural extension agencies to farm practices. Price, 5 cents.
- No. 132a. Miscellaneous papers: The farmer's income.

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**APPENDIX D.****THE GOVERNMENT BOOKSTORE.**

The Government of the United States has a bookstore filling the seven-story building on H Street, known as the Annex to the Government Printing Office. This is in charge of the Superintendent of Documents, who has for sale at actual cost to the public more than two and a half million books and bulletins published officially by the various Federal departments. This collection of official material covers a wide range of subjects and offers publications of value to persons interested in almost any branch of investigation or serious reading. Most of these publications are obtainable for 5 or 10 cents, with postage prepaid by the Government except to most foreign countries.

The price affixed in each instance simply covers the actual cost for printing, paper, and mailing, and in no sense represents the initial investment of the Government in the time employed in the research by the authors, or the material and facilities used by them in their investigations.

To make these publications accessible by subject to the public, the Superintendent of Documents issues the following price lists which he will supply free on application:

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\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.



## LISTS OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

10. Laws of the United States of America. Describes all the different forms in which the Laws have been and are officially published.
11. American Foods and Cooking. "Uncle Sam's Cook Book."
15. U. S. Geological Survey. The Survey is a prolific publisher.
16. Farmers' Bulletins and Yearbooks. This is the farmers' list. It is more in demand than any other.
18. Engineering and Surveying. Coast and Geodetic Survey publications and Engineer Corps reports on rivers and harbors.
19. The Army and the Organized Militia. American military documents, of which there are more than many peaceful citizens are aware.
20. Public Domain. Relates to public lands, conservation, irrigation, homesteading, etc.
21. Fishes of the United States. The fishery industries as well as the fishes are considered.
24. Indians of North America. Historical, ethnological, educational, and philological documents, with many illustrations.
25. Land and Water Transportation. Does not include Interstate Commerce Commission publications, which are in list 59.
28. Finances of the United States. The National Monetary Commission, the new financial legislation, the income tax, etc.
31. Education in the United States. Recent issues of bulletins are numerous and timely.
32. Noncontiguous Territory. Relates to the Philippines, Hawaii, Porto Rico, Guam, Samoa, and the occupations of Cuba.
33. Labor Questions. Titles relating to labor disputes, and plans to lighten the lot of wage workers.
35. Geography and Explorations. Reports on the early explorations as well as the later ones.
36. Government Periodicals. More than 50 periodicals—daily, weekly, and monthly.
37. Tariff Legislation. The old and the new tariffs with incidental documents.
38. Animal Industry. Describing the domestic animals in health and disease. Includes dairy, poultry, and birds.
40. Agricultural Chemistry. This is a branch of the Agriculture Department.
41. Insect Pests and How to Fight Them. From the Entomology Bureau.
42. Agricultural Experimentation. Nutrition, drainage, agricultural extension, etc.
43. Forest Service. Work of this extensive service is well covered.
44. Plant Life. All economic plant growth and its maladies and cures.
45. Public Roads Office. Reports results of extensive experimentation.
46. Soils and Fertilizers. American soils have been surveyed, described, analyzed, and classified.
48. Weather Bureau Publications. Telling what is scientifically known about the weather.
49. Congressional Records and other published proceedings of Congress.
50. American History and Biography. Many historical episodes have been described, and such descriptions are the material from which history is made.
51. Health, Disease, and Sanitation. Chiefly issues of Public Health Service.
53. Maps. Includes the United States and State maps published by the Land Office.
54. Miscellaneous. Several important subjects are grouped in this list. Corporations, immigration, referendum, liquor, and woman suffrage are among them.
55. National Museum Publications. The Museum publications are all public documents and are on sale.
56. Smithsonian Institution Reports. The General Appendix to the Report is a scientific miscellany that supplies an array of interesting titles.
57. Astronomical Papers of the Naval Observatory. Includes papers by Simon Newcomb and other astronomers of note.
58. Mines and Mining. Mainly made up of issues of the Mines Bureau.
59. Interstate Commerce Commission Publications. Relate to transportation.
60. Alaska Territory. Numerous publications relating to the newest of the Territories.
61. Panama Canal and the Canal Zone. From the inception of the idea to the present time.
62. Commerce and Manufactures. Information about Central and South America especially.
63. The Navy and the Naval Reserve. Official documents, new and old.
64. Standards of Weights, Measures, etc. Relate to the exact sciences.
65. Foreign Relations of the United States. Mainly selections from diplomatic correspondence.

These lists are constantly being reprinted and new lists are issued frequently. The names of applicants for lists that are not in stock are recorded and their requests complied with as soon as suitable lists become available.

## HOW TO BUY BOOKS FROM THE GOVERNMENT BOOKSTORE.

When any of the Federal departments issues a publication, it is allowed a limited number of copies for free distribution. When a department's supply of any publication is exhausted, the Superintendent of Documents, if there is a public demand for additional copies, reprints the publications and offers them for sale at actual cost for printing and paper. Comparatively few people, however, understand that the Superintendent of Documents has no connection with any of the other departments or know exactly how to purchase documents from him.

The method is as follows: To secure any specific document, the price of which is known, the prospective reader should send an order, accompanied by a money order, express order, certified check, or New York draft, covering the price; or he can send currency at his own risk. Postage stamps, foreign money, and worn or mutilated coins are not acceptable.

In the event that the reader does not know the title of the document and simply wishes to find what the Government issues on any topic, he should write a letter or post card to the Superintendent of Documents, asking him to send a list of available documents on the topic. Such lists will be sent without charge.

## APPENDIX E.

### PUBLICATIONS ON SCHOOL AND HOME EDUCATION AND THE CARE OF CHILDREN.

#### UNITED STATES BUREAU OF EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

(Documents not starred may be had free upon application to the Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.)

#### BULLETINS.

- \*1909, No. 3. Daily meals of school children. Price, 10 cents.  
Description of typical inexpensive lunches, methods of using food, food values, etc.
- \*1912, No. 17. The Montessori system of education. Price, 5 cents.  
A simple description of the Italian teacher's contribution to methods of instructing young children, especially in the home. (See also 1914, No. 28.)
- \*1912, No. 28. Cultivating the school grounds in Wake County, N. C. Price, 5 cents.  
Suggests practical methods whereby country women may help in school industrial work.
- \*1913, No. 12. The promotion of peace. Price, 10 cents.  
Contains programs for school celebrations, more particularly in behalf of the peace movement.
- \*1913, No. 20. Illiteracy in the United States. Price, 10 cents.  
Shows how one determined country woman wiped out illiteracy in her mountain district. Interestingly illustrated.
- \*1913, No. 30. Education in the South. Price, 10 cents.  
Brief statements of about 100 phases of rural education and cooperation, including several with direct bearing on the problems of country women.
- \*1913, No. 40. The reorganized school playground. Price, 10 cents.  
Shows need for large playgrounds, whether in village or country, and gives examples of good playground apparatus.
- 1913, No. 42. An experimental rural school at Winthrop College.  
A country school for country children, with the kitchen and garden as a basis for school work.
- \*1913, No. 43. Agriculture and rural life day. Price, 10 cents.  
Quotations and poems in praise of life on the farm.
- \*1913, No. 47. Teaching material in Government publications. Price, 10 cents.  
A guide to Government documents available for distribution.
- \*1913, No. 48. School hygiene. Price, 15 cents.  
Miscellaneous short articles on health, with a nontechnical summary of the health movement in the schools.
- 1914, No. 49. The Farragut School, a Tennessee country life high school.  
A high school in the open country which adapted its work to country needs.
- 1913, No. 58. Educational system of rural Denmark.  
Shows how a carefully worked out system of rural schools has built up rural prosperity and culture in Denmark.
- 1914, No. 5. The folk high school of Denmark.  
See 1914, No. 22.
- 1914, No. 12. Rural schoolhouses and grounds.  
Gives pictures and plans of country schools, with special reference to hygiene and sanitation.
- 1914, No. 18. The public-school system of Gary, Ind.  
Description of a school system with special features of industrial work that are being copied in many communities.
- 1914, No. 26. A rural school and hookworm disease.  
Describes the effect of hookworm disease and the work of the school in remedying it. Particularly suggestive for health improvement in country communities.
- 1914, No. 22. The Danish folk high school.  
A somewhat more elaborate description of the Danish folk high school for "grown-ups," with a discussion of the possibility of adapting these schools to the United States.
- 1914, No. 23. Some trade schools in Europe.  
A first-hand description of typical trade schools in England, France, and Germany. Fifty illustrations.
- 1914, No. 28. The Montessori method and the kindergarten.  
Compares methods in the Montessori Italian schools with those of the kindergarten, and gives helpful suggestions for mothers in handling children from 2 to 6 years.
- 1914, No. 30. Consolidation of rural schools and transportation of pupils at public expense.  
A statement of conditions as they are with arguments for and against. Illustrations of schools and transportation facilities.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

1914, No. 36. Education for the home.

A review of household arts and other instruction related to home problems. Contains lists of equipment for household arts.

1914. Play and recreation in rural communities. (In press.)

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS.

Reading course for parents. No. III.

A list of books dealing with the care of children.

\*Medical handbook. Price 50 cents.

A brief, simply written medical guide for the use of those remote from a physician. Designed for the Alaskan School Service of the Bureau of Education, but directly useful to country women.

#### OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

The following publications while designed primarily for use in the education of Indians will be found equally useful in other schools and by parents of other races. Many of them will be particularly useful to mothers interested in the home education of their children in domestic occupations.

\*Outline lessons in housekeeping, including cooking, laundering, dairying, and nursing, for use in Indian schools. Price 5 cents.

Contains also estimates for equipment and lists of references and textbooks. The outlines consist only of subject heads.

\*Some things that girls should know how to do and hence should learn how to do when in school. Price 5 cents.

Suggestions in equipment—outlines of 41 exercises in equipment and preparation of food, of 8 in care and equipment of bedrooms, of 6 in housekeeping suggestions, of 13 in cleaning, of 13 in sewing, of 10 in laundering, of 8 in dairying, of 7 in care of the sick, and of 3 in the care of camp animals.

\*Synopsis of course in sewing. Price 10 cents.

Illustrated directions for 17 sewing operations, from hemming to tucking, followed by outline lessons to cover 6 terms.

\*Farm and home mechanics; some things that every boy should know how to do and hence should learn to do in school. Price 15 cents.

Drawings and directions for making 20 common farm articles; 23 common farm processes, with directions for learning them.

\*Social plays, games, marches, old-folk dances, and rhythmic movements for use in Indian schools. Price 10 cents.

More than 150 games, graded for school children of all ages. Just as useful in white schools as in Indian schools.

#### THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

The Children's Bureau, of the Department of Labor, is ready to supply the following publications dealing with the home and community care of small children:

Prenatal care.

Infant care. (Discusses the care of the child through the second year.)

Description of the New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children. (Describes a method of cooperation among mothers living in rural districts.)

Baby-saving campaigns. (Describes methods by which some American cities have undertaken to reduce their infant mortality; including samples of literature in various languages used in these campaigns.)

Birth registration as an aid in protecting the lives and rights of children.

## APPENDIX F.

### SANITATION AND HYGIENE—PUBLICATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

The unstarred titles in the following list of bulletins dealing with health and sanitation can be obtained free on application to the United States Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.:

#### PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETINS.

No. 35. The relation of climate to the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis.

No. 36. Tuberculosis: Its nature and prevention.

No. 37. The sanitary privy: Its purpose and construction.

No. 42. Disinfectants: Their use and application in the prevention of communicable diseases.

No. 48. Pellagra. A precis (revised edition).

No. 58. Open-air schools for the cure and prevention of tuberculosis among children.

\* Obtainable only by sending the price noted, in currency or money order (stamps not accepted), to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.



## REPRINTS FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

- No. 2. Plan of organization for suppression of smallpox in communities not provided with an organized board of health.
- \*No. 9. The prevention of the spread of scarlet fever. Price, 5 cents.
- \*No. 27. Danger and prevention of tetanus from Fourth of July wounds. Price, 5 cents.
- No. 28. Prevention and destruction of mosquitoes.
- No. 36. Hookworm disease and its relation to the negro.
- \*No. 37. Treatment of hookworm disease. Price, 5 cents.
- \*No. 39. A working plan for colored antituberculosis leagues. Price, 5 cents.
- \*No. 42. Soil pollution and its relation to hookworm disease and typhoid fever. Price, 5 cents.
- No. 72. Vegetables as a possible factor in the dissemination of typhoid fever.
- No. 77. Sewage-polluted water supplies in relation to infant mortality.
- No. 100. Whooping cough: Its nature and prevention.
- No. 105. Antimalarial measures for farmhouses and plantations.
- No. 115. Hospital relief for rural districts.
- No. 116. Country schools and rural sanitation.
- No. 138. A new design for a sanitary pail.
- \*No. 142. Medical inspection of schools. Price, 5 cents.
- No. 144. School hygiene.
- No. 155. Heat and infant mortality.
- No. 164. Mental hygiene.
- No. 170. Prevention of malaria.
- No. 175. Quinine prophylaxis for malaria.
- No. 177. Rural schools.
- No. 183. Screening as an antimalarial measure.
- No. 211. School hygiene.
- No. 217. Mosquitoes and malaria.
- No. 219. The hygiene of rural schools.
- No. 221. Tuberculosis: The financial aspect of the sick leaving home in search of a beneficial climate.
- No. 224. Hookworm disease: The use of oil of chenopodium in its treatment.
- No. 227. Drug intoxication.
- No. 228. The treatment and prevention of pellagra.

## SUPPLEMENTS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

- No. 1. Measles.
- No. 2. Indoor tropics: The injurious effects of overheated dwellings, schools, etc.
- No. 3. Tuberculosis: Its predisposing causes.
- No. 5. Fighting trim: The importance of right living.
- No. 7. Shower baths for country houses.
- No. 8. Trachoma: Its nature and prevention.
- No. 10. The care of the baby.
- No. 11. What the farmer can do to prevent malaria.
- No. 14. Diphtheria: Its prevention and control.
- No. 16. Summer care of infants.
- No. 18. Malaria: Lessons on its cause and prevention.

## MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS.

List of publications of the Public Health Service.

## APPENDIX G.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S SERVICE FOR PLACING FIELD AND DOMESTIC LABOR ON FARMS.

The Division of Information in the Bureau of Immigration, United States Department of Labor, is engaged in an effort to promote a beneficial distribution of admitted aliens and other residents of the United States. With that end in view the Department of Labor has established 18 distributions, covering the entire United States, with an office or offices known as distribution branches in each zone. The particular features of this undertaking of interest to women are two, viz: (1) The efforts which officers of the several distribution branches will exert to direct from the congested centers of population to the farms and rural communities generally men, women, and girls, both citizens and aliens, to engage in farm or domestic work; and (2) the opportunities that will be presented to women to engage in seasonal occupations on farms or in other rural communities.

The idea seems to prevail in the minds of many that the Government can in some way cause immigrant families on being admitted to the United States to proceed to farming communities rather than to mines or factories. Such, however, is not the case. The great majority of immigrants who come to this country have the name and address of some relative or friend to whom they wish to go in the first instance. This is particularly true of immigrant women and girls. However, after the aliens have been in this country for a longer or shorter period they naturally look around for a place offering permanent

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employment. Then it is that they turn to the Division of Information of the Immigration Service and its several distribution branches for advice and information; and then it is that they can be induced to consider the offers of agriculturists and other employers residing in the country. The addresses of the distribution branches are shown below.

In the matter of seasonal occupations the Division of Information will institute inquiries in the communities requiring large numbers of workers for a period of a few months, and the information thus gathered will be imparted to colleges, high schools, mills, and factories, so that men and women desiring to secure rural work during vacation time may have presented to them an opportunity for so doing. Thus inquiries as to the number of additional men needed to gather the wheat harvest in the Central West were directed to farmers in May, 1914. Bulletins placed in all post offices spread the information obtained, and as a result the farmers of that section were assisted in employing nearly 75,000 farm hands.

#### LOCATION OF DISTRIBUTION BRANCHES.

Information regarding citizen as well as alien farm help may be obtained for the territory indicated by addressing "Distribution Branch, U. S. Immigration Service." at the address shown below:

Z one No.	Location of branch.	Local address.	State or Territory controlled.
1	Boston, Mass.....	Long Wharf.....	Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island.
2	New York, N. Y.....	U. S. Barge Office.....	New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont.
3	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Gloucester City, N. J.....	Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia.
4	Baltimore, Md.....	Stewart Building.....	Maryland.
5	Norfolk, Va.....	119 West Main Street.....	Virginia, North Carolina.
6	Jacksonville, Fla.....	Federal Building.....	Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina.
7	New Orleans, La.....	Immigration Station.....	Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee.
8	Galveston, Tex.....	Immigration Station.....	Texas, New Mexico.
9	Cleveland, Ohio.....	Post Office Building.....	Ohio, Kentucky.
10	Chicago, Ill.....	Newberry Building.....	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin.
11	Minneapolis, Minn.....	Federal Building.....	Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.
12	St. Louis, Mo.....	Chemical Building.....	Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Iowa.
13	Denver, Colo.....	Central Savings Bank Building.	Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Utah.
14	Helena, Mont.....	Power Building.....	Montana, Idaho.
15	Seattle, Wash.....	Fifteenth Avenue West and Main Street.	Washington.
16	Portland, Oreg.....	Railway Exchange Building.	Oregon.
17	San Francisco, Cal.....	Angel Island.....	California, north of northern boundary of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino Counties, also State of Nevada.
18	Los Angeles, Cal.....	Post Office Building.....	California, south of the northern boundary of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino, and State of Arizona.

#### PUBLICATIONS OF THE DIVISION OF INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

The Department of Labor has the following bulletins for distribution:

Distribution of admitted aliens and other residents.  
Annual report of Chief of Division of Information, fiscal year 1914. (This includes special reference to harvest-hand situation.)

Seven bulletins on "Agricultural opportunities." Information concerning resources, products, and physical characteristics, published in Polish as well as in English:

- No. 1. North Atlantic States.
- No. 2. South Atlantic States.
- No. 3. North Central States (eastern group).
- No. 4. North Central States (western group).
- No. 5. South Central States.
- No. 6. Western States (northern group) and Alaska.
- No. 7. Western States (southern group) and Hawaii.

Application for the above should be made to Division of Information, Bureau of Immigration, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.





